

Hafa Adai!

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House to 'reinstate' Torres' veto



DANCE OF PEACE

Two Miko (shrine maidens) dance with an ogi (fan) and suzu (bell) in the Urayasu no Mai [The dance of Urayasu (peace of mind)] at the 75th anniversary of the rebuilding of the Katori Shrine on Saipan last Saturday at the Sugar King Park in Garapan.

IVA MAURIN

By ERWIN ENCINARES

erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House of Representatives is looking to go around one of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' vetoes in the fiscal year 2020 budget, governing the payment of Group Health and Life Insurance premiums.

Instead of overriding the veto, which usually happens, lawmakers are calling it reinstating the vetoed section by introducing a bill for that

section only.

Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan) told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview that the House

See HOUSE on Page 4

Price freeze is lifted

By ERWIN ENCINARES

erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A year and a day after Super Typhoon Yutu hit the CNMI last Oct. 24, 2018, the price freeze on basic commodities that was declared for the CNMI to prevent price-gouging was finally lifted last Friday.

Acting governor Arnold I. Palacios issued Executive

Order 2019-14 last Oct. 25, 2019, to lift the suspension

of prices of select commodities in the CNMI. The price freeze had been active since Oct. 27, 2018.

The order to freeze the prizes of basic commodities in the

CNMI was declared a day after Gov. Ralph DLG Torres declared a state of sig-

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Palacios

No updates on missing SUV driver

By MARC A. VENUS

marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With social media and the community grapevine already abuzz with the identity of the driver of an SUV that drove over the Marpi cliff into the sea last Saturday, the Department of Public Safety continues to withhold the identity of

the victim, even as the search entered its fourth day yesterday with still no sign of a body being found.

DPS spokesperson Adrian Pangelinan said the victim's identity will only be released once the victim's family and next of kin have been briefed about the case.

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INSIDE



NATION

A wildfire sweeps through the star-studded hills of Los Angeles, forcing thousands to flee.

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FOCUS

The U.S. tourism industry is fighting to stem the drop in the flow of Chinese visitors.

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LIFE & STYLE

A cartoon that melts into a live musical will mark the 30th anniversary of "The Little Mermaid."

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TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440

FAX: 235-3740

EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

House to summon DPL chief on homestead deeds

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands will be summoned to the CNMI House of Representatives to provide answers to questions relating to the issuance of deeds to homestead owners.

This came soon after the House was poised to act on Sen. Francisco Cruz's (R-Tinian) Senate Bill 21-10, which seeks to mandate DPL to issue a deed of conveyance to eligible homesteaders within 45 days instead of two years.

Rep. Antonio SN Borja (R-Tinian), who chairs the House Natural Resources Committee, noted at the Oct. 28, 2019, House session on Capitol Hill that his committee did not receive comments from DPL about the bill. Borja further noted that requests for comments were distributed to the Saipan Mayor's Office, the Office of the Attorney General, and the Northern Islands Mayor's Office and that not one submitted comments.

He suggested that the House act on the legislation without the comments.

Rep. Roman Benavente (R-Saipan), also a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources, attested to DPL's lack of response.

However, Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan) noted that DPL submitted comments on two occasions—one at the request of the Senate Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Programs through a Feb. 21, 2019, letter, and another in an Oct. 2, 2019, letter, also addressed to the Senate committee counterpart.

In the Oct. 2, 2019 letter addressed to Sen. Francisco M. Borja (R-Tinian), who chairs the Senate Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Programs, DPL Secretary Marianne Teregeyo noted that her department only releases deeds according to CNMI law, which requires homesteaders to construct a home on the lot.

However, DPL also has the authority to waive that re-

quirement if the homesteader can show that a construction permit cannot be obtained due to the lack of power, water, or waste infrastructure, as per Public Law 20-05.

To date, DPL has not issued a quitclaim deed to a homestead permittee who has not fulfilled the basic requirements of constructing and completing his/her dwelling and residing within the dwelling structure," Teregeyo wrote.

"We find that shortening the time from two years to 45 days to mandate a deed of compliance does not rectify the inability of a homesteader to build a home due to the lack of the necessary resources mentioned," she said. "Simply, DPL has not revoked any homestead permits that have been issued in subdivisions without infrastructure."

In a separate statement, Rep. Janet Maratita (R-Saipan) questioned the need for Senate Bill 21-10: "Why is this bill necessary? Because if the homesteaders are not in compliance, then

I believe we should just follow the Village Homestead Act of 1979. I support the intent to give those [compliant] homesteaders their deeds within 45 days but we have to bear in mind the reason behind Village Homestead Act or 1979."

The Village Homestead Act of 1979 requires power,

water, and a wastewater line at a homestead lot before DPL could release the deed to that lot.

According to S.B. 21-10, the intent of the legislation is to cut the length of time homesteaders who received homestead lots without infrastructure to receive their deeds of conveyance. In-

tal, homesteaders receive their deeds at most after five years—three years after the date of entry and up to two years for the issuance of the deed.

The House later unanimously agreed to defer action on the bill pending discussions with Teregeyo in tomorrow's session.

Learning the ropes of boating safety



Representatives of the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services explain the importance of safety procedures when fishing, including wearing life jackets, to the members of the Saipan Fishermen's Association Youth Fishing Club last Saturday, at the Head Start conference room on Capital Hill.

IVA MAURIN

By IVA MAURIN
iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

As part of a bigger push to get the youth in the CNMI hooked on fishing, the Saipan Fishermen's Association is making sure that these young fishermen are prepared when they go out to sea.

Members of the SFA Youth Fishing Club—students from Saipan Southern High School, Marianas High School, Kagman High School, and Da'ok Academy—were taught the rudiments of boating safety last Saturday, at the Head Start conference room on Capital Hill.

They learned basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid from the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, as well as boating safety from the Department of Public Safety's Boating Safety Section.

A DFEMS search and rescue unit officer shared with

the students safety procedures, including how the DFEMS does its searches, as well as safety equipment needed to ensure that, if ever there is an emergency in the open ocean, DFEMS will be able to find them.

The DFEMS officer also talked about the importance of listening to high surf advisories, and wearing life jackets.

Wayne Pangelinan, chairman of the SFA community outreach program, highlighted the importance of teaching boating safety to their young members.

"There's a lot of times when people go out and think that the water is just a playground," Pangelinan said, "but they don't realize the consequences that can affect them in the event they are not prepared for it. Anytime you take out any type of vessel, it is dangerous if you're not prepared."

Pangelinan explained that the elements out in the ocean are different from what is on land, hence the need to make sure that even before they go out to the open ocean, they are already mentally-prepared and have the know-how on how to manage themselves in the elements.

Aside from helping prepare these young fishermen, the course is also approved for elective credits under the CNMI Public School System. Students who have gone through 120 hours under the SFA course will be able to use the hours toward their graduation credit.

"We worked with PSS, and [PSS science program director] Mr. Asap Ogumoro approved our elective credit for the students," said Alex Castro Jr., SFA coordinator and vice chairman. "It is basically a part of their commitment to stay with the program. It is a win-win for the students."

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Prosecutor opposes Phan's request for house arrest

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former businessman David Trung Quoc Phan has asked U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge John C. Coughenour to recommend to the Bureau of Prisons to allow him to serve his sentence at home via house arrest, as opposed to putting him in

prison in a facility in the U.S. mainland.

Also, since his imprisonment sentence is less than one year, Phan, 56, a U.S. citizen, believes that any incarceration should be served at the Department of Corrections on Saipan rather than off-island in a federal prison.

The U.S. government, however, opposes Phan's request.

Assistant U.S. attorney Eric S. O'Malley said Phan is an adult who should have considered the consequences of his actions and the impact it would have on his family a long time ago.

"It is time for him to truly take responsibility for his actions, to pay his debt to society instead of continuing to consume government resources, and to serve the sentence this court has rendered exactly as it was rendered," O'Malley said.

On Oct. 18, 2017, a federal jury convicted Phan for his role in a scheme to bring Bangladeshi men to Saipan on promises of jobs and green cards in exchange for cash. He was convicted of two counts of mail fraud, three counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting, and one count of fraud and misuse of visas and permits.

Coughenour sentenced him to eight months in prison and two years of supervised release.

Phan appealed his conviction to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He also moved for temporary release pending a decision by the Ninth Circuit on his appeal.

The District Court granted Phan's motion for temporary release last May 2.

Last June 18, the Ninth Circuit affirmed Phan's conviction and denied his request to rehear the appeal or

reconsider its decision.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has extended Phan's period of release until Nov. 5.

In his recent letter to Coughenour, Phan asked that he be granted work release if he is confined to a correctional facility.

Also, whether he is imprisoned or subjected to house arrest, he asked that that he be allowed and authorized to participate in religious and humanitarian activities that are important to him and his family.

Phan acknowledged that he made errors of judgment that led to his conviction and stated that he is ready to pay the price for those errors by serving his sentence.

Phan said his final available option is to file a petition to the U.S. Supreme Court for a certiorari to review his case, but he hesitates to do so.

Phan has already been serving "probation" since April 2017 up to the present in that his liberty has been restricted and his activities supervised.

Phan has no prior criminal record before his conviction.

He said the offenses that he was convicted of were not a heinous crime. He said the victims suffered substantial financial losses but the court did find that there was no evidence that he received any of the money they lost. Thus, he

said, Coughenour did not require him to make a monetary restitution to the victims.

Phan said his business, United Brothers Inc., has been closed since June 2017 due to the severity of the case. He said the company's tools and assets have been either stolen or destroyed by thieves and vandals.

"I have suffered great distress," Phan said, adding that his wife is still experiencing stress and trauma after having to go through the trial. His wife, Analyn, was acquitted in the case.

Despite his conviction, Phan has continued to serve his local church and volunteered for humanitarian work, especially during Super Typhoon Yutu's recovery efforts.

Since his conviction and loss of his company, Phan has been working for a company that is owned and operated by his brother, Ta Bun Kuy, to help support his family and make payments to a loan that he took out to pay for his attorney's fee in the amount of over \$50,000.

Phan said that if he is allowed house arrest or work release, his brother is willing to continue to support his family and make loan payments.

In the U.S. government's opposition, O'Malley said that, although Phan may not have been aware of the full fraud perpetrated against the victims, he was aware of the

frauds he perpetrated against the U.S. government.

O'Malley said the jail sentence rendered is already well below the range recommended by the U.S. Probation Office's pre-sentence investigation report (33 to 41 months) and the U.S. government's recommendation of 46 months.

The prosecutor said Phan's requested recommendation would, in effect, be asking for a punishment lower than which was served by Zeaur Rahman Dalu, who accepted responsibility prior to trial and testified against other co-defendants.

He said this, in turn, undermines the incentive for defendants to accept responsibility and cooperate.

O'Malley said frauds, such as those perpetrated by Phan and his colleagues, continue to plague the CNMI community, besmirching its reputation and siphoning local and federal resources.

He said a "no prison" sentence would signal to all those contemplating similar frauds that these are low-risk crimes—an invitation to future frauds.

Business Expo on Nov. 9

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the 2019 Saipan Business Expo on Nov. 9, 2019 from 9am to 4pm at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.

According to a statement from the Chamber, this will be a lively, buzzing event showcasing all types of businesses from around our island. "The Saipan Business Expo gives our community the opportunity to learn more about the products and services of businesses that call our island home and serve our local market."

There is no cost for the public to attend the event, but many opportunities for raffle prizes and potential discounts all day long.

"This spectacular event not only welcomes vendors to reserve booth space but also allow them to sell products and services along with on-

the-spot demonstrations to attendees.

"For businesses, there are a few vendor spaces still available: ...This Business Expo welcomes all entrepreneurs from all small and large businesses, franchises to corporate. Table spaces for Chamber members are \$100 (table)/\$250(wall space) and for non-members \$200(table)/500(wall space) at a first come, first serve basis."

Applications for vendors are available on the Chamber's website at www.saipanchamber.com/events.

For more information and constant updates, contact Noelani McMahon by emailing coordinator2@saipanchamber.com, calling 670-234-7150, or by visiting the Chamber office between 8am and 12pm, and from 1pm to 5pm, at the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 315. (PR)

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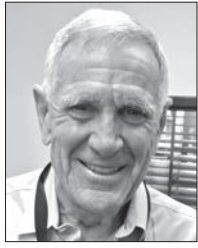
By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge David O. Carter approved yesterday the U.S. government's request to amend a task order relating to projects with total budget ceiling of \$3.2 million that aim to improve the surface drainage systems at the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s power plants 1, 2, and 4 on Saipan.

Senior attorney Bradley R. O'Brien of the U.S. Depart-

ment of Justice Environmental Enforcement Section said the original Task Order 12 is intends to improve surface drainage systems at Power Plants 1 and 2 in Lower Base and Power Plant 4 in Puerto Rico.

That includes controlling surface water, minimizing and containing oily water, and minimizing offsite migration of oily runoff.



Carter

The original funding ceiling of Task Order 12 was \$2.38 million. With a budget of \$833,026 for the amended Task Order 12, this brings the total budget ceiling to \$3,209,526 for the entire facility drainage improvements.

O'Brien said amended Task Order 12 includes projects at the three power plants and would authorize Gilbane Fed-

eral, CUC's engineering and environmental management company, to install new oil/water separators and associated infrastructure.

O'Brien said amended Task Order 12 would be funded by redirected surplus grant funds from previously completed task orders and U.S. District Court for the NMI's registry funds.

O'Brien said the recommended projects in the amended Task Order 12 that relate to Power Plant 4 include installing new multi-unit oil/

water separators, constructing surface discharge features for the OWS-treated effluent, and installing a new or repairing an existing storm drain collection system.

The lawyer said the storm drain collection system efforts will focus on collecting high-risk contact water and conveying it to the OWS system and its discharge features.

O'Brien said the recommended projects that relate to power plants 1 and 2 include

installing an OWS system, surface discharge features, and a storm-water collection system to collect high-risk contact water and convey it to the OWS system and then discharged.

He said additional engineering design work will be necessary to prepare complete design and construction bid documents.

Required work will start on Nov. 15, 2019, and will be completed on Feb. 5, 2021.

OPD questions car's warrantless search and seizure

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Claiming absence of any physical evidence connected to drug trafficking, the Office of the Public Defender is questioning the constitutionality of the warrantless search and seizure of a car that belongs to a man who is being charged with trafficking methamphetamine.

Assistant public defender Stephanie Boutsicaris, counsel for Xiao Ping Wang, said the unjustified seizure of Wang's 2013 Toyota Corolla worth at least \$6,000 was not only a constitutional violation but a flagrant abuse of police authority by the Drug Enforcement Task Force.

Boutsicaris asked the Superior Court to suppress all evidence and observations resulting from the search and seizure of the car, pursuant to

Wang's rights under the U.S. and CNMI constitutions.

The defense counsel said the car remains in police custody to this day.

The Office of the Attorney General had charged Wang with three counts of trafficking a controlled substance for allegedly selling "ice" to a Drug Enforcement Task Force's "confidential source" during sting operations between December 2018 and February 2019.

Boutsicaris said that, according to the affidavits filed in this case, police had been investigating this matter since at least December 2018 and had plenty of time to make a request for a search warrant for the vehicle but did not do so.

"There is no evidence that the vehicle was being used at the time for drug trafficking

or any other crimes," she said, adding that there is no evidence that there was any sort of ongoing emergency involving the car.

Boutsicaris said that, according to the Drug Enforcement Task Force officer's report, officers arrested Wang on Feb. 22, 2019, at 6:45pm on suspicion of drug trafficking.

Boutsicaris said photos disclosed in discovery show defendant in handcuffs in broad daylight and that he does not appear to be located anywhere near his car.

The lawyer said that, according to an inventory report written by an officer, an "inventory search" was conducted at the CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force Office on Capitol Hill.

She said nothing is known about where the car was originally located when it was

seized by officers.

Boutsicaris said nothing is known about how it was seized or the circumstances to justify its seizure.

She said many common everyday items were found inside the vehicle such as a charger, earphones, water bottles, and chewing gum.

The lawyer said there were also many improvement items such as a drill, some masking tape, and extension cords.

Boutsicaris said there were no scales, no small plastic bags, no paraphernalia, no large sums of money, and no illicit substances.

Boutsicaris said evidence and observations by police officers that have been acquired directly or indirectly as a result of an illegal search or seizure, or "the fruit of the poisonous tree," is not admissible at trial against the defendant.

PRICE

From Page 1

nificant emergency through Executive Order 2018-16 on Oct. 26, 2018.

The "price freeze shall last until rescinded or until the declaration of emergency or disaster are terminated, whichever occurs first," EO 2019-14 noted, citing the initial price freeze declaration order.

The freeze was intended to prevent price gouging, or the act of illegally increasing the prices of goods based solely on shortages caused by natural disaster or other emergencies.

Gas, kerosene, diesel fuel, natural gas, and all other chemical fuels, whether gaseous, liquid, or solid, were included in the price freeze, including all types of food, water, beverages, and ice; clothing; flashlights, lamps, lanterns, candles, light bulbs, and other means of illumination; generators, cables,

wires, electrical batteries, and other similar equipment for the generation or transmission of electrical power; all appliances for storage and preparation of food; tools typically used for construction, ground clearing, or home repairs, including electrically, chemically, and manually powered tools; all bedding items; and housing rentals, including apartments and condominiums and other commodities from rising.

A person or business who is found guilty of price gouging can be prosecuted criminally or civilly, and can face up to a \$10,000 fine and up to one year in jail for each violation.

The state of significant emergency for the CNMI since Super Typhoon Yutu remains in place and has yet to be lifted. According to a communication from the Governor's Office, it just renewed the emergency declaration through Executive Order 2019-12.



GMS JUNIOR THESPIANS BAG TOP PLACES

Five Green Meadow School middle school students bagged top places at the first Junior International Thespian Society competition last Oct. 12, 2019, at the Francisco M. Sablan Middle School. The GMS participants were: Joseph Jimenez (8th Grade)-1st place-Monologue; Areeza Anda & Ariel Legaspi -2nd place-Duet Musical; and Nicole Sacramento & Honey Satur-3rd place-Duet Musical

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

HOUSE

From Page 1

would be introducing a bill to reinstate Section 710(k) of his House Bill 21-64.

Section 710(k) mandates the Executive Branch to pay for the Group Health and Life Insurance premiums of Legislature and Judiciary employees and elected officials.

"There was a miscommunication between the Legislative [Branch] and the Executive [Branch] during the budget process, and here we are with the veto of Section 710(k). Because of that, we spoke with

the administration that we are going to reinstate this again," Blanco said, adding that the bill is still being drafted and would likely be introduced in tomorrow's session as an unnumbered bill.

Blanco said the House opted to reinstate the veto instead of overriding it, since an override would need two-thirds of the total votes of the House and Senate and also takes into account the absences.

"If we override the veto, we would need two thirds of the House and then two thirds of the Senate. Given the timeline, I am not sure we have the numbers," Blanco said. "We don't want to

hope and cross our fingers. We want something solid."

Since the House opted to introduce legislation instead of an outright override, it would only require a simple majority to pass both the House and the Senate.

Blanco expects support from the Legislature, according to his discussions with the House leadership.

At their Oct. 14, 2019, session, the House noted that they are considering overriding Torres' veto of Section 710(k) after Blanco requested that then floor leader pro tem Rep. Ralph Yumul (R-Saipan) move to keep the governor's

communication in their agenda for discussion.

According to Blanco, he previously noted that the Legislature received an email communication and verbal assurance from the Office of Management and Budget during the budget process that the Executive Branch would take care of the GLHI expenses in their budget allocation.

However, on Sept. 27, 2019, on the day of the budget's enactment, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres vetoed Section 710(k) and urged both the Legislature and Judiciary to account for the expenses within their own respective budgets.

MISSING

From Page 1

DPS continues to search for the victim in the case. Pangelinan confirmed that search teams are still investigating the scene at Banzai Cliff.

DPS received a call late Saturday of an SUV driving over the Marpi cliff line at Banzai Cliff. DPS, together with the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, the U.S. Coast Guard, and U.S. Navy, searched the area since Saturday and only found the underwater vehicle on Sunday. No body was found.

The vehicle was identified as a white, tinted, 2006-2012 Toyota RAV4 and the owner's identity was not disclosed last Monday.

On the first day of the search last Saturday, DPS officers noticed damage to World War II monuments and car parts around the cliff line. Officers also noticed items that appeared to be clothing and a bag drifting in the current. A video of the floating items later surfaced on social media.

DPS and DFEMS rescue

boats were deployed and they searched the area Saturday night, but it was later called off due to rough waters and it was already getting dark.

Search efforts continued on Sunday with DPS divers twice scouring the waters off the cliff, while DPS and DFEMS rescue boats coordinated with the USCG and the U.S. Navy. Banzai Cliff was closed off Sunday as DPS, DFEMS, USCG, and the U.S. Navy continued the search for the victim.

Rescue teams were able to retrieve the vehicle from the water, but no victim was found inside it. The search was called off at 5pm Sunday, with no signs of the victim.

Search efforts continued on Monday, with DPS boats and its Search and Rescue Unit searching further north and Wing Beach, while USCG boats and helicopters scoured the oceans within the scene. No victim was found and searches were called off.

Pangelinan confirmed that DPS is still working with DFEMS and USCG to find the victim, but have not found a body as of yesterday.

CHCC: Get vaccinated for measles

By **MARC A. VENUS**
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With a resurgent measles outbreak in the Pacific and the U.S. mainland, the Commonwealth Health Care Corp. is emphasizing the importance of getting vaccinated against the disease, not only to protect oneself but also to protect others.

Most recently, Samoa declared an outbreak of measles with seven confirmed cases. There are also ongoing measles outbreaks in the Philippines, Tonga, New Zealand, and Australia.

In the U.S. mainland, there have been 1,250 individual cases of measles confirmed in 31 states from Jan. 1 to Oct. 3, 2019.

Measles is a highly infectious disease caused by the measles virus, it occurs worldwide, and is commonly characterized by a full body rash that appears a few days after the beginning of the initial fever.

Measles can be prevented by getting the measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine.

CHCC believes the risk of a measles outbreak in the CNMI is low, but these events serve as a reminder to immunize yourself and your children on schedule. The MMR vaccine

requires two doses, given at separate times, in order to be fully effective.

The first dose is generally given when a child is 12-15 months old, and the second dose is given when the child is 4-6 years old. The two doses of the MMR vaccine must be separated by at least 28 days and adults who do not have two doses of MMR documented should get vaccinated as soon as possible.

Measles symptoms appear around seven to 14 days after the initial infection. Early symptoms often include: high fever, cough, runny nose, red and watery eyes, tiny white spots on the inside of the mouth (called Koplik spots), and rashes that commonly appear three to five days after the beginning of the initial symptoms. The rashes usually begin as flat red spots that appear on the face and hairline then spread downwards, often covering the entire body.

Although most people recover from measles, the illness can cause complications, especially in infants and young children.

Contact the CHCC's outpatient clinics at (670) 234-8951 during business hours from Monday to Saturday, or call the CHCC operator at (670) 234-8950.



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purple

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5:00pm - Purple Wave starts.

5:30pm - Purple Walk and Roll starts.

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NOMINATION REQUEST DEADLINE: DECEMBER 13, 2019

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Literary journal seeks submissions about Oceania rising

The Division of English and Applied Linguistics at the University of Guam invites writers and artists to submit poetry, prose, and artwork under the theme “Oceania Rising” for the 19th issue of its literary publication, *Storyboard: A Journal of Pacific Imagery*. Unpublished work will be accepted until Dec. 16 via email to storyboard@triton.uog.edu.

Oceania is at the center of some of the world’s most pressing issues: climate change, threats to indigenous rights, contamination of natural resources, and des-

ecration of sacred lands. As Oceania faces these issues every day, the editorial review board of *Storyboard 19* recognized that the voices of Pacific peoples must be central to discussions about how to address these issues, editor Holly Rustick said. Thus, the 19th issue seeks to “provide

a platform for grassroots-to-global conversations and creative expression with the theme ‘Oceania Rising,’” she said.

This call for submissions is open to the public. All submissions must fall under one of four categories: poetry, fiction, non-fiction written in English

or any other Pacific language (with translations into English), and visual art.

Possible topics related to the theme of “Oceania Rising” include, but are not limited to, climate change, indigenous rights, bleached coral, ocean practices, plastic waste, conservation, self-determination, rising sea levels, marine protected areas,

dislocation of peoples due to climate change, energy sources, contamination, pollution, traditional practices, and island wisdom. Writers and artists are open to submit work based on their creative interpretation of the theme.

A full list of topic ideas and submission guidelines and forms can be found at www.uog.edu/uogpress/storyboard.

Storyboard has promoted literacy activity in the Pacific Islands for more than 20 years.

For more information, contact UOG press marketing communications coordinator Akina Chargualaf at (671) 735-2154 or achargualaf@triton.uog.edu or editor Holly Rustick at storyboard@triton.uog.edu. **(PR)**

MICHAEL N. EVANGELISTA, ESQ.
(CNMI Bar No. F0364)
LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL NORITA EVANGELISTA, LLC
D'Torres Building, Garapan
P.O. Box 504340, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 235-8060; Fax: (670) 235-8070
Email: mnevangelista8@gmail.com
Attorney for Petitioner

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

**VICTOR BABAUTA
CASTRO,
Petitioner,
vs.
LORALIE JENNETH
TOMINES SANCHEZ,
Respondent.**

TO: LORALIE JENNETH TOMINES SANCHEZ

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Petition for Divorce, which is served herewith, **within twenty-one (21) days** after the fourth publication, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Law Offices of Michael Norita Evangelista, LLC., Petitioner's attorney, whose address is 2nd Floor, D'Torres Building, Garapan, P.O. Box 504340, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it the Clerk of the above-named Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgement by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Divorce.

By order of this Court, dated 24th day of September, 2019.

/s/ Clerk of Court
PATRICK V. DIAZ

Emergency water service interruption

There is an emergency water service interruption in the Chalan Laulau area for Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers on Chalan Pale Arnold Road from the traffic light intersection (near the old Payless ShoeSource) to the IT&E commercial building.

The cause of the water service interruption is due to a 16-inch distribution water-line leak on the northbound outer lane.

The repair work is expected to be completed today, Oct. 30, 2019, at 8am. Customers in the affected areas should expect restoration of water service soon after.

For the safety of the men and women working at the site, motorists are advised to proceed with caution and take alternative routes when traveling by the area.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor the CUC Facebook page for the latest updates (<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/1>). **(PR)**

CHamoru commission meeting set

The Kumisión i Fino' CHamoru yan i Fina'na'guen i Historia yan i Lina'la' i Tao-

tao Tāno' (*Commission on CHamoru Language and the Teaching of the History and Culture of the Indigenous People of Guam*) will hold its first November monthly meeting on Nov. 7, 2019, Thursday, from 12:30pm to 3pm at the Guam Museum conference room, in Hågatña. Call Roland Blas, Kumisión secretary, for special accommodations and agenda at 480-4047 or email at rolandblas1973@gmail.com. **(PR)**

More Guam tax refunds out this week

HAGATNA, Guam—The Department of Revenue & Taxation and the Department of Administration will mail this week about 470 tax refund checks totaling approximately \$ 1.2 million, including refunds garnished to repay government debts, for error- free returns filed on or before May 4, 2019. For inquiries, contact the Income Tax Branch of the Department of Revenue & Taxation at 671-635-1809 or Edward Birn, Department of Administration, at (671) 475-1250. **(PR)**

US military to sets trainings

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Navy will conduct training on Oct. 31 from 7am to

7pm at the island of Farallon de Medinilla.

This training supports aircrew combat readiness and is critical to developing the skills needed to respond to operational missions throughout the region to ensure a stable, free, and open Indo-Pacific.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be within a 12-nautical-mile radius of the island.

The Navy will also conduct training today, Oct. 30, from 7am to 4pm at Warning Area 517.

W-517 begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Banks remain open.

U.S. Naval Base Guam Security Forces will conduct training tomorrow, Oct. 31, in outer Apra Harbor, from 9am to 1pm. It is recommended the public, fishermen, and marine tour operators monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories.

These types of trainings are designed to enhance the readiness of military personnel. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity associated with the training. **(PR)**

SHRM meeting today Oct. 30

The Society for Human Resource Management NMI Chapter will have its membership meeting today, Oct. 30, 2019, at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan's Charley's Cabaret beginning at 11am. It will feature Public School System Cooperative Education program coordinator Brandon Nicholas and Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence executive director Maisie Tenorio. This meeting is open to the public.

The presentation includes a lunch buffet at the cost of \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members. Reserve your seat by contacting Penny Jones by email at penelope.jones@hyatt.com or Denise Montenegro at denise.montenegro@hyatt.com or by telephone at 323-5867/68. **(PR)**


Golf tournament fundraiser for JKPL

The 4th Annual Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Golf Tournament Fundraiser will take place on Sunday, Nov. 10, at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort's west course. Game format is Low Gross and Double Peoria, 2-Person Scramble (Men and Women). Cost to participate is \$200 entry per


team. All proceeds will help support the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and its resource and collection development, circulation materials, and library programs. Last day to register is Thursday, Nov. 7, at 5pm. **(PR)**

Saipan to host terrestrial conservation conference

The 3rd Annual Marianas Terrestrial Conservation Conference & Workshop will be held on Nov. 18-20, at the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in Garapan. Registration is free and open to the public, and will include presentations on terrestrial conservation, field trips and activities such as pre-conference proa rides and Mariana swiftlet field trip, and a lizard identification trip at American Memorial Park. To register, visit marianas-terrestrialconservation.org. It also includes a birding trip, tree planting for Yutu recovery, Jeffrey's Beach tour, and native limestone forest hike. For more information about the conference, or for donations (financial or in-kind) to help with organizational costs as well as to raise funds to enable students to travel to the conference to present their research, email Jill Liske-Clark at liskeclark.cnmidfw@gmail.com. **(PR)**



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD**
P.O. Box 502078, Bldg., 1242 Pohnpei Court
Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814
Email: cnmi@cnmibpl-hcplb.net | Website: cnmibpl-hcplb.net




Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on **Thursday, October 31, 2019 at 8am** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the CHCC Conference Room #2, Lower Navy Hill.


AGENDA

- I. Meeting Call to Order
- II. Determination of Quorum
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes (09/17/19)
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Chairperson's Report
- VII. Director's Report
 - FY 2019 Financial Report
- VIII. Investigator's Report
- IX. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature
 - A. Governor's Office
 - B. Legislature
- X. Old Business
- XI. New Business
 - Unlicensed Providers (report from Dr. Willis)
- XII. Pending Applications for Board's Review
 - A. New Applications
 - Rota Health Center Pharmacy
 - Tinian Health Center Pharmacy
 - S.Kuroiwa (Application to practice Chiropractic)
 - B. Renewal Applications
- XIII. Miscellaneous Business
- XIV. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with Counsel on pending or anticipated legal matters.
- XV. Announcements
 - A. Next Meeting Date
 - B. Adjournment of Meeting

/s/ Theodore R. Parker, R.Ph., MPH
Chairman



**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP20-BECQ/DCRM-007**

SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 02, 2019 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“CONDUCT & DEVELOP THE CNMI COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM’S 2021-2025 SECTION 309 PROGRAM ASSESSMENT & STRATEGY FOR THE BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL COASTAL QUALITY, DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.


ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP **MUST** BE SUBMITTED VIA-EMAIL **TO MR. RICH SALAS** BY EMAIL AT rsalas@dcrm.gov.mp, **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS NOVEMBER 15, 2019**. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PERSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.


THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

**/S/ ELI D. CABRERA
ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ**

**/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S**



**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP20-DCCA/CCDF-005**

SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 02, 2019 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

“CREATE & REVISE CNMI'S CCDF PRE-SERVICE TRAINING CONTENT, PROVIDE RELATED ACTIVITIES, CREATE & PROVIDE ON-GOING HEALTHY & SAFETY TRAININGS TO MEET CCDBG ACT OF 2014 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT THE CHILD CARE DEVELOPEMNT FUND OFFICE BUILDING NO. 1347, ASCENCION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN ON **NOVEMBER 15, 2019 AT 10:00 A.M.**

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO **MS. MARIBEL S.D. LOSTE, PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR**, VIA EMAIL TO mloste.cnmicdf@gmail.com OR VIA FACSIMILE TO **(670) 664-2547 NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS NOVEMBER 18, 2019**. ALL QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROPOSERS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

**/S/ ROBERT H. HUNTER
SECRETARY, DCCA**

**/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S**

4 students named winners in 'My Hero' contest

From over 100 entries, two students from public schools and two from private schools were named winners in the "My Hero" contest of the Commonwealth Health Care Corp.'s Crisis Counseling Program.

The names of the winners—

selected from the elementary, middle, and high school levels—were announced during last Saturday's Resiliency Fest.

The Crisis Counseling Program received over 100 entries from all grade levels for the contest.

Grace Christian Academy 2nd grade student Joaquin Torres was selected as the winner of the drawing contest in the elementary level, while Chacha Oceanview Middle School 8th grade student Leanalyn Jane Reyes was selected for the middle

school level.

GCA 9th grade student Anthony Deleon Guerrero and Marianas High School 11th grade student Victoria Dela Cruz were selected as the winners of the high school writing contests.

Students were challenged

to recognize the most important person who taught them what it means to triumph over adversity. Each student was tasked to draw a picture of write a personal story about a person who helped them become more resilient after Super Typhoon Yutu, which

hit Saipan and Tinian last October 2018.

The contest was inspired by the United Nations' International Day for Disaster Reduction, which was recognized on Oct. 9 in the CNMI, and the Crisis Counseling Program wanted to tie that to the one-year anniversary of Super Typhoon Yutu on Oct. 24. *(Marc A. Venus)*

Atkins Kroll donates 2020 Toyota Corolla to JKPL's golf fundraiser

By IVA MAURIN
iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

To help advance literacy by supporting library services for the CNMI, Atkins Kroll Toyota has donated a 2020 Toyota Corolla Sedan as a hole-in-one prize for the 4th Annual Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Golf Tournament Fundraiser on Nov. 10, 2019, at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort's west course.

"The library is important in the community for kids, for families, for education," said AK general manager Clark Boswell. "We are always happy to support these kinds of organizations. The library is important. It is not a private business, so I am sure they need all the help they can get as far as support and sponsorships [go]."

Boswell pointed out that AK always supports the library's golf tournament, and it is a good way to create some excitement to the game.

JKPL technical services librarian Beth Demapan expressed gratitude for AK's continued support to the library. "We're so happy to have the support and sponsor-



Atkins Kroll general manager Clark Boswell, second from right, first row, hands over the new 2020 Toyota Corolla Sedan to the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library staff, as donation to the 4th Annual Friends of the JKPL Golf Tournament Fundraiser on Nov. 10, 2019, at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

IVA MAURIN

ship of a hole-in-one by Atkins Kroll Toyota," Demapan said. "Atkins Kroll has continued to support the library and, through their sponsorship, they are able to make sure that the library's programs and services are funded for the community because they're helping us with these fundraising activities."

The fundraiser is the last tournament of the season, and JKPL is hoping that the community will come out and

support it.

The last day to register is on Nov. 7, Thursday, at 5pm.

"It is \$200 per team. Come out to the public library and purchase your entry form there, or go to the Laolao Bay golf course," Demapan said.

Proceeds from the 4th Annual Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Golf Tournament Fundraiser will go to support the resource and collection development, circulation materials, and the

free programs and services that the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, the Bookmobile, the Tinian Public Library, and the

Antonio C. Atalig Memorial Library provide for the CNMI. To support the fundraiser and for more informa-

tion, contact Demapan or golf committee chair Joey Dela Cruz at 235-7315/235-7316/287-7161.



CNMI DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



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TO REGISTER:

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For more information, visit our website at www.pacificsbdc.com or call CNMI SBDC Office at 664-3018



Date: November 5, 2019
Time: 9:00AM- 11:00AM

FREE TRAINING

Location:
CNMI Women's Center,
Building # 1223
Capitol Hill

Presented by:



Nicole Babauta
Director &
Business Advisor
CNMI SBDC

DISCLAIMER: The Pacific Islands SBDC Network is funded in part through a co-operative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. All opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA. Requests for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Language assistance services are available for limited English proficient individuals with enough advance notice. For arrangements, please contact Lorie Panglilan, P.O. Box 5795 CHRB, Saipan MP 96950 Tel: (670)664-3018 or Email lorie@pacificsbdc.com. Services are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis.

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Israel claims Hillbroom's mother removed as co-guardian

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Vietnam-based lawyer Barry J. Israel has claimed to have obtained a 1998 order from the Guam Guardianship Court that removed Junior Larry Hillbroom's mother, Kaelani Kinney, as his then-co-guardian.

Israel, through counsel Theodore W. Frank, stated in court documents that this 1998 court order removing Kinney as co-guardian of Hillbroom is directly relevant to his (Israel) motion for summary judgment.

Frank noted that Hillbroom opposes Israel's motion for summary judgment in part by asserting that Kinney, as his co-guardian, was not notified of the 56% retainer or the application for its approval to the Guam Guardianship Court.

But notifying Kinney was no longer required, Frank said, because at the time the ap-

plication to approve the 56% retainer, Sept. 6, 2001, Kinney had already been removed as Hillbroom's co-guardian for almost three years.

In his lawsuit against his former lawyers, Israel and David J. Lujan, Hillbroom alleges that the two lawyers, together with Hillbroom trustee Keith Waibel, conspired in 2001 to wrongfully increase their contingency fee when the estate of ex-DHL co-founder the Larry Hillblom was undergoing probate.

Frank disclosed that last Wednesday, Oct. 23, he received an email from attorney Jim Brooks, a colleague of Lujan, which attached the Guam Guardianship Court order dated Dec. 23, 1998.

"This was the first time that I became aware of the existence of this order, as it was not in any of the documents produced by the parties in this

action," Frank said.

Frank noted that the Guam Guardianship Court's order removing Kinney as co-guardian was issued on Dec. 23, 1998, and that the same court approved the 56% retainer, ordering it effective as of April 15, 1999.

Frank said the approval of the 56% retainer was requested in an ex parte application by Hillbroom's grandmother, Nakoko Imeong, who then-served as co-guardian of Hillbroom.

Ex parte refers to an application to the court by one of the parties without the other party being present or heard.

Frank said the 1998 order proved that Kinney was not Hillbroom's guardian at the time the 56% retainer was approved by the court.

Frank said in his opposition to Israel's motion for summary judgment, Hillbroom argued that Israel and Lujan failed to include Kinney in most of the

important decisions made on behalf of Hillbroom.

Frank said Hillbroom also argued that Israel and Lujan were legally required to get approval of any act on behalf of Hillbroom or the Hillbroom's trust from both Kinney and Imeong, but they did not.

These statements, Frank said, are demonstrably false as to the 56% retainer and its approval by the Guam Guardianship Court, based on the court's 1998 order removing Kinney as co-guardian.

Frank said Kinney was not Hillbroom's guardian at the time that the 56% retainer was submitted to and approved by the Guam Guardianship Court on Sept. 6, 2001.

Therefore, Frank said, there was no legal obligation by Israel and Lujan to give notice to Kinney or to obtain her consent/approval/joiner to the 56% retainer and its submis-

sion for court's approval.

Frank said every party that was required to have notice of the submission of the 56% retainer for approval by the court received notice.

He said Waibel, as trustee of Hillbroom's Trust, entered into the 56% retainer as the client, and therefore had notice.

Frank said Imeong, Hillbroom's grandmother and guardian, signed and submitted her joiner in the application for the court's approval of the 56% retainer, and therefore had notice.

Frank said everyone who was legally required to look out for Hillbroom's best interests had notice of and consented to the application for approval of the 56% retainer by the Guam Guardianship Court.

Hillbroom is suing Israel, Lujan, and Waibel, alleging

mismanagement of approximately \$90 million he inherited as heir of Larry Lee Hillblom, a co-founder and former owner of DHL Worldwide Express.

The jury trial in Hillbroom's lawsuit is currently set for Nov. 19, 2019.

Hillbroom, a Palauan, is one of the four DNA-proven children of Hillblom. His name is spelled differently from that of Hillblom. The three other children are Jellian Cuartero, a Filipino; Mercedita Feliciano, a Filipino; and Nguyen Be Lory, a Vietnamese.

Hillblom died in a seaplane crash off Anatahan waters on a flight from Pagan Island to Saipan on May 21, 1995, leaving behind an estate worth approximately \$550 million. The bodies of the pilot and a business partner were found, but Hillblom's body was never recovered.

VOX POPULI

By **IVA MAURIN**
iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With increased efforts to get the CNMI's youth hooked on fishing, *Saipan Tribune* asked future fishermen—members of the Youth Fishing Club of the Saipan Fishermen's Association—why learning how to fish is important.



Changar

"I love fishing and I want to learn more. I want to use the skills that I learn to improve and to keep our marine environment clean."

—**Terrance Changar, 16, Saipan Southern High School**

"If I learn, then I can start going fishing and support my family when they need food and stuff in the future."

—**Austin McKinnon, 17, Saipan Southern High School**

"I want to know about what's out there in the water and how to save the animals and prevent pollution. It is good to spread awareness of nature so we could also teach other people how to fish also and stop pollution."



McKinnon



Robles

—**Dhan Robles, 16, Marianas High School**

"It is especially good to teach young students that the ocean was our ancestors' main source of food. Fishing is currently a dying [activity] in the Marianas, and I think it is really important that the younger generations get a better chance to experience this."

—**Joseph Cabrera, 18, Saipan Southern High School**



Cabrera

"I feel, like, when people think about fishing, they think of guys fishing, not girls. So, I feel like girls should get that girl power thing that not a lot of people think that they should be passionate about."

—**Bernicia Sablan, 17, Saipan Southern High School**



Sablan

"I think fishing is important because it's a natural resource, and because the youth can rely on it. It is an important part of our culture here



Pua

on the islands."
—**Alvaughna Pua, 17, Da'ok Academy**



Dela Cruz

"Fishing is a useful technique for us, and also a part of our culture. We have been fishing for a long time. It can help a lot of people with many things, not only for providing for their family, but if they want to find different ways of getting off things that they're not supposed to be on."

—**Jovanavin Dela Cruz, 18, Da'ok Academy**

USDOL: \$322M in recovered wages for workers in FY 2019

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Department of Labor announced yesterday that the Wage and Hour Division recovered a record \$322 million in wages owed workers in fiscal year 2019.

WHD also set a new record for compliance assistance events in fiscal year 2019, holding more than 3,700 educational outreach events—including on-the-ground presentations and trainings—to help job creators understand their responsibilities under the law.

"Through rigorous enforcement and robust compliance assistance, the U.S. Department of Labor is committed to ensuring that workers receive the wages they have earned," said U.S. Labor Secretary Eugene Scalia. "These record-breaking numbers top the department's totals from last year, which also set records, and confirm our ongoing commitment to strong enforcement and to providing employers with the tools they need to comply with the law."

"We are delivering a level playing field for employers and employees alike," said

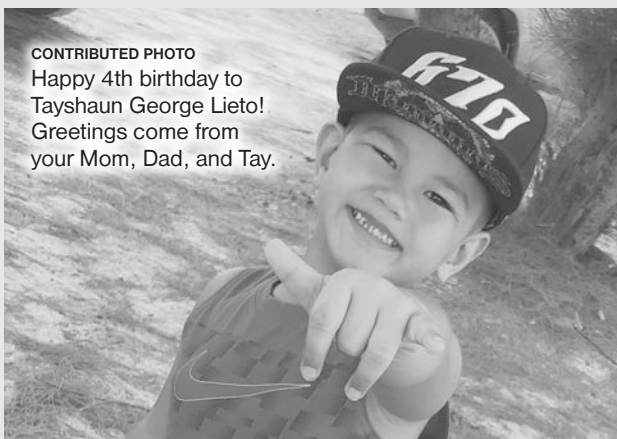
Wage and Hour Division administrator Cheryl Stanton. "We are delivering more back wages for workers than ever before, and we are steadfastly eliminating any unfair economic advantage employers may try to gain by skirting the rules. We are protecting those who do the right thing, pay their employees what they have legally earned, and operate in compliance."

WHD is constantly improving and expanding a data-driven approach coupled with stakeholder engagement allows the Agency to identify accurately the industries and sectors in which to focus resources most efficiently. A new Office of Enterprise Data and Analytics launched this month will ensure WHD uses the most cutting-edge tools and data sources available to guide decision making and secure the largest possible impact.

Visit www.dol.gov/whd for additional information about WHD's work. Employers and employees are encouraged to contact WHD at 866-4US-WAGE with any compliance questions or for further information. (PR)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Happy 4th birthday to
Tayshaun George Lieto!
Greetings come from
your Mom, Dad, and Tay.



Docomo Pacific becomes 1st to launch 5G in Marianas

TAMUNING, Guam—Docomo Pacific announced yesterday its achievement in being the first telecommunica-

tions company to commercially launch 5G in the Marianas.

The new 5G service is now operational in the villages of

Tamuning and Hagåtña.

In March, Docomo Pacific introduced the island's first 5G Open Lab, allowing local and

worldwide partners to test and co-create practical solutions in a 5G environment.

Docomo Pacific is a wholly

owned subsidiary of NTT Docomo, Japan's leading mobile operator. Headquartered in Tamuning, Guam, Docomo

Pacific is the largest provider of residential and enterprise connectivity in Guam and the Mariana Islands. Get to know more about what makes us "Better Together" at www.docomopacific.com. **(PR)**

Super American Circus to swing by Saipan in Nov.

The Lady Diann Torres Foundation and Joeten Enterprises, Inc. presents The Super American Circus 2019 Saipan shows.

This modern one-ring circus will showcase some of the best acts in the world at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium in Susupe on Nov. 15, 16, and 17, 2019.

The Superhero theme and thrilling acts will include:

■ Martin Espana, who will be performing incredible acts on a revolving wheel called The Wheel of Danger that is four stories high;

■ Tammy Firefly (Aerial Star Fire Act)

■ Ivan (Cyr Wheel and Unicycle)

■ Sasha (foot juggling and rolla bolla)

■ Cristina and Alex (comedy juggling)

■ Vivian and Keren (aerialists on silks)

■ Montana (aerialist on Spanish web and violinist),

■ Olena (internationally-acclaimed hula hoop artist)

■ Olex Kartukov (comic

juggler and clown), and

■ Elaine Alcorn (vocalist and ringmaster).

Super American Circus presenter Cornell "Tuffy" Nicholas comes from a family with an extensive circus history. He has produced and managed more than 5,000 shows in the U.S. and around the world.

"The satisfaction [of] knowing that you have created something that is not only successful but also brings happiness to people from all around the world is very rewarding," said Nicholas.

Families will be delighted with the pre-show and intermission activities, including photos with superhero characters, face painting and more. Traditional treats such as snow cones, cotton candy and popcorn will be available.

Showtimes are Nov. 15 at 7:30pm, Nov. 16 at 1pm, 4pm, and 7:30pm, and Nov. 17 at 1pm, 4pm, and 7:30pm.

Tickets prices are:

Advance:

\$65: VIP ringside - adult and child

\$40: General admission
\$20: Children (12 yrs and under)

Day of:

\$65.00 - VIP ringside - adult & child

\$50: General admission

\$30: Children (12 yrs and under)

Tickets are now available online at www.superamericancircus.com. Tickets will also be available for direct purchase by Nov. 6, 2019, at Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Joeten Susupe, Joeten Dandan, Joeten Kagman, Hafa Adai Shopping Center, Pena House, and Iridescent Boutique.

The Super American Circus provides a family-friendly entertainment for all ages with thrilling human acts, fun-filled comedy and exciting unforgettable moments that will create memories that will last a lifetime.

Partnering sponsors include


Tan Siu Lin Foundation, *Marianas Variety*, and KKMP.

For information about The Super American Circus, contact the Lady Diann Torres Foundation at (670) 235-LDTF (5383) or email ladydiannrtorres@gmail.com. You may also follow Super American Circus and Lady Diann Torres Foundation on Facebook and Instagram for details and updates about the 2019 Saipan shows. **(PR)**

The Lady Diann Torres Foundation and Joeten Enterprises presents the Super American Circus, featuring the talents of Tammy Firefly. Spectators can expect other acts that include a stuntman on the "wheel of danger," aerialists on silks and a Spanish web, jugglers, comics, a rolla bolla pro, vocalists and a ringmaster. Seven 90-minute shows from Nov. 15 to 17. Tickets are now available online at www.superamericancircus.com and by Nov. 6 at all Joeten market locations, Pena House, Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, and Iridescent Boutique.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO





Legislative Bureau
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586, SAIPAN, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-20-001
PL-UNGRADED: \$17,456.99 Annual

Position: Journal Clerk
Opening Date: October 21, 2019
Closing Date: November 08, 2019

The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee

Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan

General Duties:

- Records and transcribes all sessions. Transcriptions must be completed expediently and prior to the following session;
- Assists the Clerk in maintaining an up to date status table of legislative documents;
- Assists the Clerk in preparation of materials for sessions and other legislative meetings;
- Assists the Clerk in the duplication and dissemination of documents during sessions;
- Prepares the compilation of legislative journals for publication by the Legislative Clerk;
- Acts in the capacity of the Legislative Clerk in the absence of the Legislative Clerk;
- Performs other duties as assigned.
- Undergo a pre-employment drug test.


Qualifications and Requirements:

- Possess two years relevant work experience or a minimum of an A.A. or A.S. degree or higher from a United States accredited institution of higher education ;
- Knowledgeable with word processing with word processing, and interpretive understanding of at least two of the official languages of the CNMI preferred.

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through 19(F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by a copy of an official diploma and/or certificate. **Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.**

Employment application may be accessed at www.cnmileg.gov.mp or may be picked up at the Office of the Director of the Legislative Bureau located at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan. **Completed application and police clearance** may be submitted to the Office of the Director or may be mailed to the Office of the Director; Legislative Bureau; P.O. Box 500586; Saipan, MP 96950. No telephone inquiries.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-19-038

REPAIR OF OIL STORAGE TANKS – CUC SAIPAN AND ROTA POWER PLANTS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified and experienced firms for the Repair of Oil Storage Tanks – CUC Saipan and Rota power plants, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Most of the tanks are still in "active" use.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one IFB package set.

A Pre-bid Conference and a Site Visit is scheduled on **October 23 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at CUC Saipan Power Plant No. 1, Administration Building, Lower Base, Saipan and **October 24 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at CUC Rota Power Plant, Songsong Village, Rota, to ensure that the contractors are fully aware of the work involved and familiarize with the site conditions. All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the plant site conditions in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or performance of work under the contract.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"IFB CUC-19-038: Repair of Oil Storage Tanks, CUC Saipan and Rota power plants"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 18, 2019**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of **fifteen percent (15%)** of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The bid guarantee may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Performance Bond of **one hundred percent (100%)** of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of **one hundred percent (100%)** of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). **Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.**

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

The bidder is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page – <http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm>. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Contractors are advised that the work will be carried out as a part of CUC response actions under the terms of Stipulated Order No. 2 (SO 2). CUC may split the contract work based on island location, i.e. separate contracts for the island of Saipan and Rota in the best interest of expediency and competitive rates. Project performance quality would be verified by third party quality assurance specialists with certified and approved credentials.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 28, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, at email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org, with a copy to CUC's Utility Coordinator/ ATMO at email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org and to Christie Sablan, Purchasing Technician, Senior, at email address at christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY BOYER SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

A good day for America

Gone, gone, gone is the piece of human filth named Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, who led an army determined to subject a swath of the Middle East to a Dark Ages vision of Islam while, using 21st-century technology, inspiring people throughout the rest of the world to murder in the name of ISIS.

Praise the warriors of the U.S. military who closed in on him and the intelligence and counterterrorism agents who discovered exactly where he was and when. President Trump, commander in chief of the military, has also earned his due, just as President Obama did for ordering the raid that killed Osama Bin Laden.

Note that al-Baghdadi, who claimed to believe in Islam, blew himself to pieces, violating the religion's strict prohibition against suicide.

ISIS, like Al Qaeda and other terrorist networks that inject radical Islamist poison into the global bloodstream, is much bigger than a single leader. It lives on in jihadis throughout the region as well as in Americans and Europeans who find something meaningful in its twisted, woman-hating, Christian-hating, Jew-hating, ordinary-Muslim-hating ideology.

But the fact that U.S. forces have dispatched al-Baghdadi to a shallow grave is, by any measure, a serious setback to the terrorists' morale, just as was the loss of the so-called territorial caliphate they claimed their faith had promised them.

Of course, Trump found a way to use the moment to try to torment his domestic political rivals, saying he specifically did not alert a bipartisan group of congressional leaders because Democrats were sure to leak, and claiming "Bin Laden was big but this was bigger." In 2012, Trump tweeted, "Stop congratulating Obama for killing Bin Laden. The Navy Seals killed Bin Laden."

We give both Trump and Obama credit for authorizing the missions that killed sworn enemies of America. We hope ISIS is now limping and wheezing and soon dies. We hope, in its death throes, it does not cause more carnage.

(c) 2019 New York Daily News

Climate change has set California on fire. Are you paying attention?

California is in a state of emergency.

Since early October, millions of people in the northern and southern parts of the state have had their electricity shut off to prevent downed power lines from setting off deadly fires, like the ones that ravaged the state last year. But these unprecedented outages haven't been as effective as had been hoped; despite them, a series of wildfires, fanned by extraordinarily heavy winds, have swept through the state forcing hundreds of thousands of people to evacuate their homes.

See AMERICA on Next Page



Another one bites the dust

Only extreme partisans intent on denying President Trump any credit for any success would be critical of the operation he ordered that resulted in the death of Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. These extreme partisans include Speaker Nancy Pelosi who, while praising the "heroism" of the special unit that conducted the raid on al-Baghdadi's location in northern Syria, could not bring herself to say anything nice about the president. Instead, she said the House should have been notified in advance. Why? Does the House command troops? Pelosi lamented that Russia was informed, but that was because Russian weapons and troops were in areas over which American helicopters flew in order to reach their target.

Kudos to senator and presidential candidate Amy Klobuchar, who said on the CBS program "Face the Nation" that the president's decision was a "good one." She even acknowledged without rancor that it could benefit him politically.

In a Sunday morning appearance at the White House, the president reminded forgetful Americans of the type of organization al-Baghdadi led. He recalled prisoners dressed in orange jumpsuits, who were shown on videos with knives at their throats and later beheaded. He also said, "Baghdadi was vicious and violent, and he died in a vicious and violent way—as a coward, running and crying."

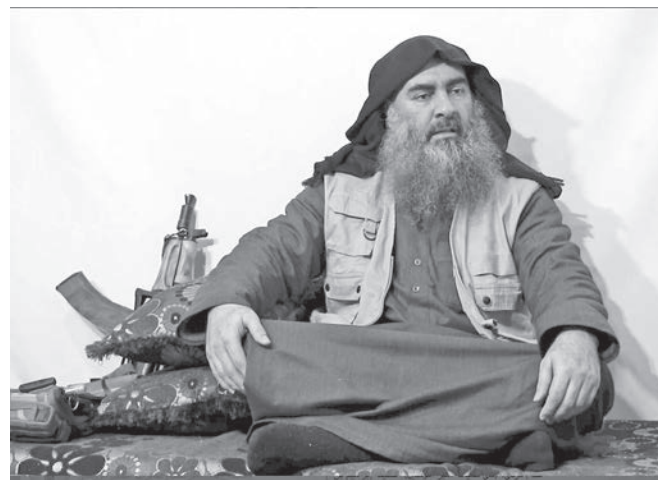
For much of the world this was a "Wizard of Oz" moment when the curtain is pulled back and the man behind it is not as frightening as he appeared to be.

Some commentators on various TV networks kept referring to al-Baghdadi's "ideology." His was more than an ideology. Communism is an ideology. Fascism is an ideology. What motivated al-Baghdadi and other ISIS fighters was religion. When one believes he is on "a mission from God," to invoke a line from the film "The Blues Brothers," there is little to stop him, other than death. Radical Islamists believe their death in fighting us "infidels" is a guaranteed ticket to heaven. How does one deter that, other than by helping them punch their ticket?

Radical Islam is a virus. It is not contained within borders. It does not have a capital that can be bombed. That is why its evil

By CAL THOMAS
Tribune Content Agency

This year marks Cal Thomas' 35th year as a syndicated columnist. Readers may email him at tcaeditors@tribpub.com.



This file image made from video posted on a militant website April 29, 2019, purports to show the leader of the Islamic State group, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, being interviewed by his group's Al-Furqan media outlet.

nature must always be exposed and its goals thwarted. Yes, others will sign up and those currently ISIS members will likely be even more motivated by revenge. Still, others may see the cowardly behavior of al-Baghdadi and be motivated to either quit the organization, or not join it in the first place.

Americans have a short attention span and need to have their memories jogged from time to time about the multiple threats that confront all free people who wish to maintain their freedom, which is never cheap.

One of the cable channels has been showing the film "United Flight 93," the story of

the hijacking of one of four planes on Sept. 11. This is the plane that Todd Beamer and other passengers saved from likely hitting the Capitol or the White House by breaking into the cockpit and driving the plane into the ground in Shanksville, Pa. The film portrays the religious motivations of the four Muslim hijackers and their brutality as they stabbed and slashed the captain, co-pilot and several passengers.

Thinking about the flawless operation by American forces brought to mind Lord Byron's classic poem, "The Destruction of Sennacherib." It includes this line:

"For the Angel of Death spread his wings on the blast,
And breathed in the face of the foe as he passed;
And the eyes of the sleepers waxed deadly and chill,
And their hearts but once heaved, and for ever grew still!"

Our troops deserve praise, as does the president for making this happen. There will be more terrorist leaders, but at least this one has bitten the dust.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Kutturan natibu

Bes enkuando, oppan sentimentu para ta sustene kutturan Chamorro. Namagof na ekspressiu pot ta pinitiye haf tinatte-ta ni man-natibu.

Kuttura pot modun linala tautau maseha manu gi tanu. I natibu lokue guaha modun linala ña deste tutuhoña guine siha na atkipetlagu.

AMERICA

From Page 10

Nobody can honestly say this is a surprise, given the devastating fires of recent years. Yet it feels surprising all the same. How did things get so bad in California, so quickly?

The answer is climate change. It is here and our communities are not ready for it.

California is no stranger to fire, especially when the dry Santa Ana winds sweep through the southern end of the state, turning sparks into conflagrations. However, countless researchers and government reports have warned for years that climate change would amplify natural variations in the weather, leading to more frequent and more destructive wildfires.

It's clear that conditions are getting worse throughout the state. Five of California's 20 deadliest wildfires have occurred during the last two years. And 10 of the 20 most destructive wildfires, in terms of structures lost, occurred over the last 10 years.

And it's also woefully apparent that the state's infrastructure cannot handle this new normal. The power outages left many regions without cellular service, emergency information, traffic lights or the other essentials of a modern, functioning community. Roads clogged as people tried to evacuate. And the fires have proved again and again that even homes and commercial areas in suburban-style neighborhoods seemingly far from forests or chaparral can be torched by embers carried for miles by hurricane-force winds.

California has to retrofit itself to make communities more resistant to wildfires. That will mean, for example, making sure buildings are fire resistant and burying power lines in high-fire-risk areas when feasible and developing microgrids that can provide backup power. It will be extraordinarily expensive and politically fraught, but it's essential to protect lives and control the chaos created by the growing fire threat.

But the wildfires are just the beginning of what Californians can expect. We know what's coming as the effects of climate change became more pronounced. The state will have to contend with more floods, coastal erosion and deadly heat waves. Intense weather will overwhelm existing public and private infrastructure unless we adapt now and build more resilient communities.

California has been a leader in trying to slow climate change by cutting greenhouse gas emissions. That is still essential work because there's still time to avoid some of the worst effects of global warming.

Climate change is at our doorstep in California. The rest of the world should be paying attention.

(c) 2019 Los Angeles Times

Siempre ta bisita haf gaige gi tres attikulu tat kumu kustumbre, tradision yan kuttura. Pot ihemplo: kustumbre i selebrasion Independence Day (4th of July). Katoliku i tradision relihion natibu. Kuttura i modun linala ta.

Selebrasion Independence Day (4th of July) tafa kustumbre deste finagpu' geran dos. Umafagcha dos impottante na ha'ane pot nai manlibre todus dispues de gera America yan este siha na petlas.

I liñguahita i diñga kuttura-ta. Solu sahyan ni kumatga tinatten natibu deste antigu na tiempu esta i modetnu na modun linala ta pa'gu. Namagof i mansattun hit sumustene usun finu Chamorro.

Modun linala ta establesau gi tanu yan tasi, fangualu an yan peska ni tatulaika nai manhanau hit para i moseria. Ta pega papa adeñgta para mantension familia.

Integredat

I palabra pot dignu yan onru gi tautau ni mau dai gi hilu respetu. Dos bandan pahina gi unu. Kada tautau mafañagu yan bettot integredat. Guiya siempre lumasgue modun reputasioña.

Man-mauleg tautau-ta ni umusune ha anen niha nai gi mismu tiempu ti man-malefa sensian respetu, ina ayuda, yine ase, yan gineftau. Sopla bettot gi ma-adelantan mauleg na relasion yan otru.

I bettot karitatibu pot inañgoghu. Sentidu pot mau udai gi pisun disposision-mu kumu tautau. Gi uttimu besis hagu solu inkatgau ni figan fino mu.

An un fafana un namase kau unna e kabales setbisiomu pat un diteni sino ñega pot estauña? Estague nai mansensura hau kabales sin testigu. Asuntun konsensia yan integredat.

Direchu

Matutuhun madiskute ni mañeluta giya Guahan haf propiu na estau politika para siha. Mauleg na pinetsige nai un dia siempre u disidi klaru haf dinisehan niha.

I para u kahulu dispues na disposision siempre u fattu ginen i tautau. Bonitu an un dia siha dumispone ha anen niha gi papa sisteman gobietnamentu ni siha dumisidi.

I eksisiu mafattu ginen prinsipiun konseptun sudadanu. Direchu ti prebiblehiu! Magahet na apmam na karera gi papa banderan Amerikanu deste 1898. Matutuhun fotmat na diniskute gi dichu asuntu. Bien felis gi pinetsigen mañeluta!

Hinemlu

Sige inefresen programa siha entalu kandidaton para presidente gi pattidan democrats America. Unu man-offrese dibatde na gastun hinemlu.

Lau haye para u inapase este na gastu? Anog dispues na kada unu giya hita siempre mutta ti menus ke \$10-mit pesu gi sakan gi papa i nuebu na prinipone. Inefresen gaga politika!

Guaha gi presente nu este na programa ni kumubre i makat na gastu. Siempre tali e haf uttimoña hinanau dibate gi este na asuntu.

Diberas

Anaku na tiempu deste ke guaha inefrese pot hatsadan suetdun empleau. Esta pa'gu megaiña gumagana suetdun popble! O sun i prohimu Magu man-naña!

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

Hu e'ekuñgug kau guaha ta lu man-ofrese ni mismu mahañge na saibog suetdu ni esta linimutan gi hilu lamasa.

Libianu ma-offresen ñaihon asuntu sin sensian responsabilidadat pot magagana pa'gu \$99,500 gi sakan. Este na suetdu \$47-mit pesu mas ke haf tagagana gi suetdun popble ni madagau ñaihon kulan to lañg gi galagun bisinu. Chatmiyu fan manmalefa na i publiku ha sentuñgu asuntoña!

Ha obliga finaisen haf na adelantu in pega gi suetdun inerat? Kau pot guaguan suetdun miyu na in fatkeluye i asuntu pa'gu?

Atan maisa hau kau magahet na metgut sensiamu integredat gi disposision asuntun linahyan. Siempre bai insiste na un esplika publikamente haf un petsige guine na asuntu gi tetminomu.

Chamoru

Metgut na diniseha guaha gi manhoben iya Guahan para umaeyag liñguahen niha finu Chamoru, segun un programan television guine gi halacha.

I pinetsige propiu pot tat mas ke para unna fitme haf tinattemu gi modun linala mu tat kumu pisun kuttura. Sin ditension, kuttura i liñguahe ni taimanu na atlibesmu. Bien felis gi este na pinetsigen mañeluta gi bisinu.

Pinasensia

Guaguan inapagat saina gi famaguon siha. Hu agradese suanu yan amtau na finu saina pot ha pañgun sensian kinemprende giya hita. Ginen finu niha nai ta chahlau ineyag pinasensia yan himiddi. I tatatte sumen impottante giya hita.

Huli e gi un guma man-a'achatfinu e famaguon yan mañinan niha. Esta hu birayu ya hu toñgtuñg iluhu kau magahet hiniñgog-hu. Lau magahet masusede. Dios mihu para un fa kontrariu mañainamu. Malefa hau ni todus sakrifisiun niha?

Etupak

Estaba un hoben gi kantun tasi ume etupak. Dispues de 45 minutos mauleg kinine ña na guihan. Nahuñg para kelaguen yan inafitu. Humanau para iya siha dispues.

Para i hinibeña ya hatuñgu umetotche esta kontentuyu na ti u ñalañg gi karera. Gi halum una ora bula sahuña difirientes klasen guihan.

Magahet i pineble na fuetsau inibligau hau umeyag man-aligau pot satbasion gi halum tinaya. Bali magahet mesñgun ya solu nai siña un komprende an magahet na un pokate miseraple na kañadan pineble.

T.O.A.S.T.: Tuneful Old-Age Senior Tales

Come and read, take a chance, reminiscing on my past music and dance, two sonnets on it, slow and fast, fast tempo a brain energizer, adagio my favorite tranquilizer they explain themselves, each a great internal analyzer. Dedicated to Deacon John Moore, my brother-in-law, a New Orleans Creole musician in the Louisiana Music Hall of Fame; and Anna Glushko, Russian ballet dancer and teacher in Saipan, CNMI. Both are alive and well. John is 80 still performing at Jazz Fest and giving em hell!

My Dancing Days are Almost Gone

"A man may put pretense away who leans upon a stick, may sing, and sing until he drops."

—W.B. Yeats, 1933

Let me whisper into your hearing aid
my dancing days are almost gone
thousands of hours I've danced and played
sometimes literally from dusk till dawn.
I swear at my bad knees, try to keep them moving

no matter the pain, no matter how bad the hurt
to Klezmer, Zydeco, Norteño I keep on grooving
at home, on beaches, roads made of coral and dirt.
I thought about it all last night and all day long
"I don't wanna hang up my rock and roll shoes"
give up dancing or stop when a boogie beat song
comes along, waltz with the wind, bop till I drop
With two wooden legs I can still dance the Twist
just say, "Get up and boogie!" I just can't resist.

Midsummer Night Rococo Remembering

"Rhythm and harmony find their way into the inward places of the soul."

—Plato, Greek philosopher (427-347 BC)

No more peace, I heard the cell phone's obnoxious ring
bringing me back from a midsummer night's dream
when I was about to hear Cecilia Bartoli do her thing
way up in operatic heaven no need for online meme
a cello soars and music pours back inside my head

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY






Special to the Saipan Tribune



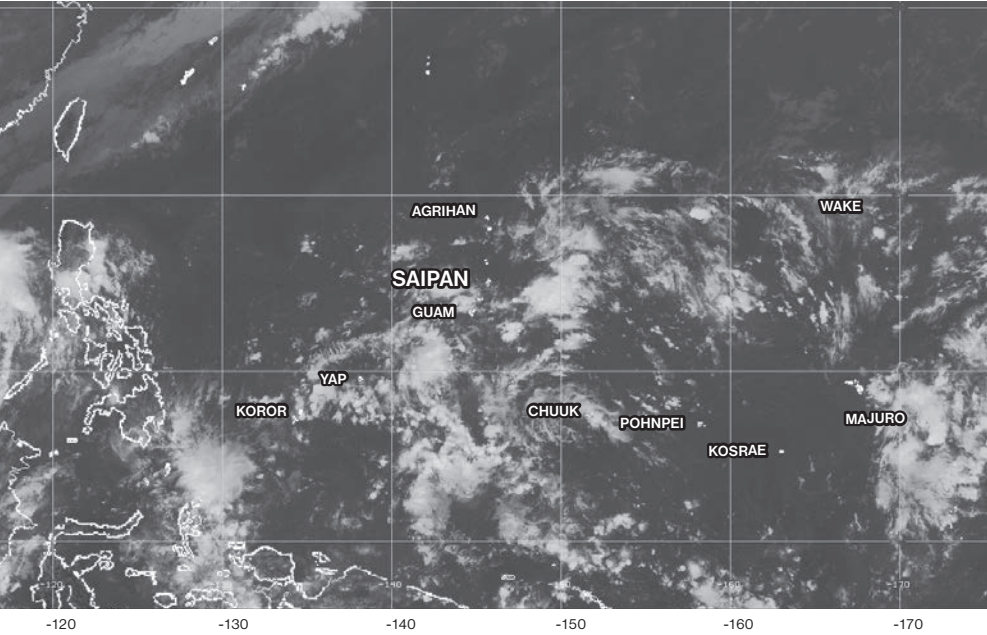
Joey aka Pepe Batbon is a retired educator who taught in the CNMI, NOLA, and LVNV. He is a sonnet practitioner who enjoys stargazing.

Jordi Savall saws away on some ancient Celtic tune
I wonder where this cool summer nights yarn has led
under the Milky Way with a lovely crescent moon
heavenly song is free streaming radio glissando
destroyed by sadistic static and heavy traffic noise
all chopped up by some radio waves commando
for a small baroque chamber ensemble I would rejoice
to hear a viola da gamba or 18th century harpsichord
or a Thomas Tallis composition echo word for word.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
									
Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 20 mph.		Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 5 to 15 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	
87°	77°	87°	77°	88°	78°	87°	77°	87°	77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:12 AM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2019
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Isolated showers are moving through the area with a line of heavier showers between Guam and Rota. Clusters of showers and thunderstorms are found farther away from the Marianas. A surface trough is found near 150E but convection along its midsection, just east of the Marianas, has largely dissipated. Buoys and altimetry data show seas of around 5 feet across the Marianas.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	87° / 76°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	87° / 76°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Sunny	61° / 54°	
Beijing	Sunny	72° / 41°	
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	82° / 73°	
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	87° / 76°	
London	Partly Cloudy	52° / 46°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	75° / 46°	
Manila	Partly Cloudy	91° / 79°	
Melbourne	Windy	90° / 72°	
Miami	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°	
New York	Sunny	69° / 61°	
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	73° / 61°	
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	64° / 52°	
Busan	Partly Cloudy	66° / 48°	
Rome	Showers	70° / 55°	
Salem	Showers	75° / 68°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	66° / 48°	
Seoul	Sunny	70° / 45°	
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	75° / 65°	
Washington, DC	Cloudy	71° / 61°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
2:54 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.35	
9:30 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.93	
3:20 PM	LOW TIDE	0.86	
8:28 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.89	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:12 AM	5:49 PM
Thursday	6:12 AM	5:48 PM
Friday	6:12 AM	5:48 PM
Saturday	6:13 AM	5:47 PM
Sunday	6:13 AM	5:47 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	7:59 AM	7:43 PM	-
Thursday	8:58 AM	8:35 PM	-
Friday	9:56 AM	9:29 PM	-
Saturday	10:52 AM	10:23 PM	-
Sunday	11:44 AM	-	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 27, 2019							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:15am	9:55am	Daily	UA174	7:30am	8:10am	Daily
UA105	6:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4	UA104	4:50pm	5:30pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:20am	6:30am	Daily	7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
				7C3452	10:05pm	2:30am+1	3
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	2:05am	6:05am	Daily	OZ6233	8:00am	1:20pm	2, 4, 6
OZ626	2:10am	6:10am	1	OZ623	8:55am	2:30pm	1, 3, 5, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:25am	3, 7	7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 4, 5, 6	OZ625	7:30pm	1:00am+1	7
7C3403	4:35am	8:35am	Daily	TW307	7:45pm	1:05am+1	Daily
OZ6243	3:20pm	7:10pm	2, 4, 6	OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ624	3:50pm	7:40pm	1, 3, 5, 7	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily				
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)				HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1	JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4	JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6	3U8645	8:10pm	3:10am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:50pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:35am	1 via ICN	UA184/174	12:40am	8:07am+1	3, 6 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:35am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:05pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	9:50pm	Daily via GUM	OZ702/625	12:05pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA117/193	9:15am	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	UA192/174	10:40pm	8:07am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
				UA184/174	10:55pm	8:07am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
				OZ704/6233	11:45pm	1:20pm+1	1, 3, 5 via ICN
				OZ704/623	11:45pm	2:30pm+1	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/6233	12:30am	1:20pm	2, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ746/623	12:30am	2:30pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ6243/9661	3:20pm	11:15pm	2, 4, 6 via ICN	UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
OZ624/9661	3:50pm	11:15pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; BC SkyMark ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. <i>(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)</i>							
STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.							
SAIPAN TO ROTA				1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily	1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily	1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily	1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
				1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
				1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily	1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily				
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily	TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
ROTA TO GUAM				FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily	2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
				2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA				2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily	2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
				2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
				2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

BoH announces 2 new managing committee members

HONOLULU, Hawaii—Bank of Hawaii announces the promotion of executive vice president Ed Hudson to senior executive vice president and executive vice president Dana Takushi to senior executive vice president.

Hudson, also the chief people officer, continues to provide leadership for all areas within the bank's People Services Division, including

compensation and benefits, leadership and employee development programs, organizational effectiveness, talent acquisition, operations and regulatory compliance.

Hudson joined Bank of Hawaii as vice president and director of development in People Services in December 2017. He was promoted to executive vice president and



Takushi



Hudson

chief people officer in September 2018. Prior to joining the bank, Hudson worked in

human resources and organizational development for several leading technology companies in Silicon Valley for more than 20 years.

He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration and human resources management from California State University at Long Beach and the University of Southern California, respectively.

Hudson is a member of the U.S.-Japan Council, the Society of Human Resources Management, WorldatWork and the Project Management Institute.

Takushi, also the private

bank manager, will now oversee Kālai Services Group, Private Banking, and Trust Services Group on her new role as senior executive vice president.

Takushi joined Bank of Hawaii in 1993 and progressed into a number of leadership positions, including in The Private Bank, Corporate Banking, and Hawaii Commercial Banking Division. Takushi has a wealth of banking experience, and during her BOH career has held positions in the areas of equipment leasing, business banking, commercial real estate lending, wholesale credit, and investment services compliance and

risk management.

She earned her bachelor of business administration degree in finance from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and earned her Certified Treasury Professional degree from the Association for Financial Professionals in 2001. Takushi is also a graduate of the University of Washington's Pacific Coast Banking School.

Takushi is the immediate past board chair for Parents And Children Together, and serves on the boards of directors for Palolo Chinese Home, Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce, Kaneohe Ranch and Barstow Foundation. **(PR)**

Draghi stepped in during euro's darkest hour

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)—Mario Draghi leaves as head of the European Central Bank credited with having rescued the eurozone from disaster with a well-timed phrase and bold action to back up his words.

He expanded the bank's arsenal of crisis-fighting tools with new and unconventional policies, measures that he and others say helped end a financial crisis in 2010-2012 and create millions of jobs in the 19-country monetary union.

Yet the closing days of his term have hardly been a victory lap. His departure is accompanied by an unusually public dispute among ECB board members over stimulus policies he pushed for that aim to lower borrowing costs. Critics question the long-term impact of his stimulus efforts and argue they deterred governments from improving their finances and could lead to trouble down the road.

high borrowing costs in the bond market, Greece needed a second bailout, and the breakup of the shared euro currency, one of the European Union's core projects, seemed possible. On that day Draghi told an investment conference in London that the euro was "irreversible" and added that "within our mandate, the ECB is ready to do whatever it takes to preserve the euro. And believe me, it will be enough."

In the following weeks Draghi convinced the national central bank heads and top ECB officials to back a plan to buy unlimited amounts of the government bonds of euro countries facing financial pressure. The promise was so bold that it convinced international investors that the euro would not break up: the bond market was calmed, and the program never needed to be used.

"Draghi turned the ECB into the de facto lender of last resort for the eurozone governments," said economist Florian Hense at Berenberg bank. "This act almost single-handedly ended the euro crisis."

Yet Draghi's rescue mission bore the seeds of today's dissent.

Legislators, news media and economists in northern European countries like Germany and the Netherlands argued that intervening in the bond market effectively mean the ECB was propping up governments and relieving them of pressure to shape up financially.

That criticism rose when Draghi's ECB implemented another stimulus program, the purchase of 2.6 trillion euros (\$2.9 trillion) in government

bonds from March 2015 to December 2019.

Opposition on the ECB's governing council broke into the open in September, after Draghi's next-to-last meeting, when he pushed through a plan to re-start bond purchases at the pace of 20 billion euros per month as uncertainty from the U.S.-China threatened to derail Europe's hard-won economic growth. Several members who were in the minority openly questioned the move and one stimulus opponent resigned, without publicly stating a reason.

Joerg Kraemer, chief economist at Germany's Commerzbank, said that Draghi's policies blurred the line between the responsibilities of central banks and those of governments. "The ECB moved closer to the politicians," said Kraemer. "In the end, Draghi took over tasks normally done by fiscal policy."

The eurozone finance ministers could, for instance, have added enough money to their bailout fund, the European Stability Mechanism, to backstop governments. "You cannot really say whether Draghi saved the currency union or not, because you do not know what the finance ministers would have done in the absence of the ECB," said Kraemer.

Despite massive stimulus, Draghi ends his term with the ECB far from its goal of consistent inflation at just under 2%, the level it considers best for the economy. He leaves with an average 1.2% over his term, compared to 2% for previous President Wim Duisenberg from 1999 to 2003 and 2.1% for President Jean-Claude Trichet from 2003 to 2011.

CEO will tell Congress that Boeing made mistakes on Max jet

On the anniversary of the first of two deadly crashes involving 737 Max jets, Boeing's CEO will tell Congress that the aircraft company knows it made mistakes and is throwing everything into fixing the plane.

"We have learned and are still learning from these accidents," Dennis Muilenburg said in comments prepared for delivery Tuesday to a Senate committee. "We know we made mistakes and got some things wrong. We own that, and we are fixing them."

A key lawmaker said Monday that Boeing should have got things right the first time, before the Max began carrying passengers.

Muilenburg is scheduled to testify Tuesday before the Senate Commerce Committee, then again on Wednesday before the House Transportation Committee. Boeing released his prepared statement Monday.

His appearances in Washington come as Boeing faces investigations by both committees and a criminal probe by the Justice Department. It is also being sued by families of some of the 346 people who died in the crashes of a Max off the coast of Indonesia on Oct. 29, 2018, and another in Ethiopia on March 10.

In their final report on the first crash, Indonesia investigators said last week that Boeing's design of a key flight-control system made the plane

vulnerable if a single sensor failed—disregarding the aviation industry's long reliance on redundant systems to prevent disaster. They also faulted Lion Air, which operated the plane, and U.S. regulators who approved it for flight.

Rep. Peter DeFazio, chairman of the House Transportation Committee, said he will ask Muilenburg why Boeing didn't tell the Federal Aviation Administration about changes during development of the Max that made the flight-control system called MCAS more powerful. DeFazio suggested that Boeing concealed the true power of MCAS to discourage regulators from examining the system more closely.

On both fatal flights, faulty sensors caused MCAS to push the planes' noses down, and pilots were unable to save the aircraft. Boeing is now making the nose-down pitch less frequent and powerful, and it is adding redundancy by tying it to two sensors and two computers instead of one each at a time.

"They seem to have done what they should have done to begin with, which is they made the system less radical," DeFazio told reporters. "There are numerous regulators looking at this, it isn't just going to be the FAA. This will be the most thoroughly scrutinized fix in the history of the aviation industry."

Congress is expected to consider changes to the way

FAA certifies new planes and its practice of deputizing employees of Boeing and other aircraft manufacturers to perform safety tests on key components.

Some relatives of passengers who died in the crashes want Boeing banned from conducting safety reviews—they want FAA inspectors to do all that work. Such a change would require a big increase in FAA's budget. According to DeFazio, there are about 45 FAA inspectors overseeing 1,200 Boeing employees who conduct much of the actual testing.

Several relatives of Max victims want Muilenburg to pay a personal price for the accidents and Boeing's response.

"We don't think Muilenburg should be CEO anymore," said Michael Stumo, whose daughter Samya was on the Ethiopian Airlines Max. "He presided through this, minimizing it, trying to convince everyone it was pilot error, everything was fine, it's a safe plane. Everything so far has been dissembling, denial, pointing the finger somewhere else."

Muilenburg, who is expected to meet with some of the family members Wednesday, was stripped of his title as chairman of the Boeing board earlier this month. The most senior executive dismissed so far was the head of Boeing's commercial airplanes division, Kevin McAllister. **(AP)**

STOCK

PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

S&P

3,039.42

+16.87

+0.56%

DOW

27,090.72

+132.66

+0.49%

NASDAQ

8,325.99

+82.87

+1.01%

EXCHANGE RATES

Hong Kong Dollar	7.84	Russian Ruble	63.57
Australian Dollar	1.46	Singapore Dollar	1.36
British Pound	0.78	South Korean Won	1,143.51
Canadian Dollar	1.30	Swiss Franc	0.99
Chinese Yuan	6.93	Taiwan Dollar	29.98
Euro	0.90	Thailand Baht	30.14

Nation

Wildfire forces residents, celebrities to flee

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A wildfire swept through the star-studded hills of Los Angeles on Monday, destroying several large homes and forcing LeBron James and thousands of others to flee. Meanwhile, a blaze in Northern California wine country exploded in size.

The flames that roared up a steep hillside near the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles' Brentwood section illustrated the danger the state faces as high winds batter both ends of California and threaten to turn any spark into a devastating inferno.

At least eight homes were destroyed and six damaged in the LA-area blaze, fire officials said.

No deaths from either blaze were reported, but a firefighter was seriously injured in the blaze in Sonoma County wine country. Authorities later said he was in stable condition.

Some 2.2 million people lacked electricity after California's biggest utility, Pacific Gas & Electric, shut it off over the weekend in the northern part of the state to prevent its equipment from sparking blazes during windy weather. More deliberate blackouts are possible in the coming days because another round of strong winds is expected.

The company, which was



Firefighters work on a house destroyed by a wildfire called the Getty Fire in Los Angeles, Monday, Oct. 28, 2019.

AP

driven into bankruptcy after its equipment ignited several deadly wildfires in recent years, admitted Monday that despite the outages, its power lines may have started two smaller fires over the weekend in the San Francisco Bay Area.

PG&E also has said its transmission lines may have

been responsible for the Sonoma County fire.

That blaze, which broke out last week amid the vineyards and wineries north of San Francisco, grew to at least 116 square miles (300 square kilometers), destroying 123 buildings including 57 homes, damaging another dozen homes

and threatening 90,000 more structures, authorities said.

Although about 30,000 people were allowed back home Monday afternoon, about 156,000 people were still under evacuation orders because of the fire, mostly from the city of Santa Rosa. People on the eastern side of the fire and in neighboring Lake County also were given evacuation warnings to be prepared to leave

because of changing winds.

The flames didn't discriminate. In wine country, farmworkers who toil in the vineyards were among those displaced. In Los Angeles, James and former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger were driven from their homes.

"Man these LA (fires) are no joke," the Los Angeles Lakers star tweeted, using an emoji for the word "fires."

Guilty plea in newspaper shootings; insanity hearing is next

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP)—A Maryland man pleaded guilty Monday in the slayings of five employees at an Annapolis newspaper, and a jury is expected to hear testimony next month about whether he was not responsible by reason of insanity.

Jarrod Ramos pleaded guilty in the 2018 massacre at the Capital Gazette newspaper. Judge Laura Ripken accepted his plea Monday afternoon.

Ripken said she determined that Ramos "freely, knowingly and voluntarily" waived his right to a jury trial to determine his guilt or innocence.

Wearing green jail clothes and a long beard, Ramos stood in court and repeatedly answered "that is correct" when asked by the judge whether he understood he was giving up his right to the first phase of his trial to determine whether he committed the crimes.

"Yes, I am," Ramos said, when asked if he was guilty of all 23 counts in an indictment, including first-degree murder,

attempted murder, assault and other charges.

Newspaper employees and victims' relatives who attended the hearing held hands and wiped at tears during the proceeding in Anne Arundel County Circuit Court.

Rachael Pacella, a Capital Gazette staffer who survived the shooting by hiding between file cabinets and was injured while trying to escape, said Ramos' guilty plea brought a "big emotional relief" for her.

"I definitely feel a little bit better and a little bit lighter after this plea," she said.

Rick Hutzell, the newspaper's editor, said he hopes Ramos' guilty plea provides some comfort to the survivors of the shootings and relatives of the five employees who were killed. But he said he doesn't know if it brings any justice.

"There is no justice for the dead," Hutzell said.

Phil Davis, a former Capital Gazette reporter who survived the shooting and now works

"Crazy night."

The Hollywood premiere of Schwarzenegger's "Terminator: Dark Fate" was canceled Monday night.

Others who own homes in the evacuation zone include Sen. Kamala Harris, a Democrat running for president, who was not home at the time; Walt Disney Co. CEO Bob Iger; and rapper and producer Dr. Dre.

Anxious residents made their way down steep hillsides in the middle of the night in Range Rovers, Teslas and Maseratis. They left behind homes decorated for Halloween—skeletons hanging from homes, goblins sitting on front steps, cobwebs draped over bushes—as a plume of smoke glowed like a giant pumpkin.

David Boyle, 78, awoke at 3 a.m. to his doorbell ringing and police officers pounding on the front door. They warned him the wildfire was advancing toward his house near the Getty complex.

"They said, 'You need to evacuate.' I'm like, 'When?' They said, 'Now,'" Doyle said.

He grabbed dog food and his wife's jewelry and hustled his dogs out the door. They went to a recreation center.

"It's a fact of life when you live in this area," he said. "Every place has some problem with disasters. People talk about earthquakes here, but I don't think it's as bad as hurricane season."

Utility says power lines may have started 2 California fires

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Pacific Gas & Electric Co. power lines may have started two wildfires over the weekend in the San Francisco Bay Area, the utility said Monday, even though widespread blackouts were in place to prevent downed lines from starting fires during dangerously windy weather.

The fires described in PG&E reports to state regulators match blazes that destroyed a tennis club and forced evacuations in Lafayette, about 20 miles (32 kilometers) east of San Francisco.

The fires began in a section of town where PG&E had opted to keep the lights on. The sites were not designated as a high fire risk, the company said.

Powerful winds were driving multiple fires across California and forcing power shut-offs intended to prevent blazes. More than 900,000 power customers—an estimated 2.5 million people—were in the dark Monday, nearly all of them in PG&E's territory in Northern and Central California.

Southern California Edison had cut off power to 25,000 customers and warned that it was considering disconnecting about 350,000 more.

PG&E is under severe financial pressure after its equipment was blamed for a series of destructive wildfires during the past three years. Its stock dropped 24 percent Monday to close at \$3.80 and was down more than 50 percent since Thursday.

The company reported last week that a transmission tower may have caused a Sonoma County fire that has forced nearly 200,000 people to evacuate.

PG&E told the California Public Utilities Commission that a worker responded to a fire in Lafayette late Sunday afternoon and was told firefighters believed contact between a power line and a communication line may have caused it.

A worker went to another fire about an hour later and saw a fallen pole and transformer. Contra Costa Fire Department personnel on site told the worker they were

looking at the transformer as a potential ignition source, a company official wrote.

Separately, the company told regulators that it failed to notify 23,000 customers, including 500 with medical conditions, before shutting off their power earlier this month during windy weather.

Before a planned blackout, power companies are required to notify customers and take extra care to get in touch with those with medical problems who may not be able to handle extended periods without air conditioning or may need power to run medical devices.

PG&E said some customers had no contact information on file. Others were incorrectly thought to be getting electricity.

After that outage, workers discovered 43 cases of wind-related damage to power lines, transformers and other equipment.

Jennifer Robison, a PG&E spokeswoman, said the company is working with independent living centers to determine how best to serve people with disabilities.

Asia

HK activist Joshua Wong disqualified from elections

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong authorities disqualified high-profile pro-democracy activist Joshua Wong from upcoming local council elections, in the latest sign of deepening division in the semi-autonomous Chinese city wracked by months of protests.

City leader Carrie Lam has ruled out political solutions until the violence ends and said Tuesday a recession was possible in the major Asian economic hub.

A returning officer notified Wong that his nomination as a candidate in next month's elections was ruled invalid, according to a copy of the letter Wong posted on his Twitter account.

The government issued a statement saying the nomination of a candidate, whom it did not identify, was ruled invalid. It indicated the problem was related to the candidate advocating "self-determination" for Hong Kong, which it said conflicts with the requirement for candidates to declare they'll pledge allegiance to the city and uphold its constitution.

Wong became known as the young face of Hong Kong's 2014 "Umbrella Movement"



Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam attends a press conference in Hong Kong, Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2019.

protest movement. He has been less prominent in the current protest movement, which has been leaderless and whose participants have sought to remain anonymous.

Wong and other pro-democ-

racy activists were disqualified from running in previous elections. But the others have reportedly been approved for the Nov. 24 district council elections, making him the only one to be banned.

"It proved how Beijing manipulate the election with political censorship and screen-

ing," he said on Twitter.

Wong's disqualification came as city leader Carrie

Lam ruled out finding a political resolution before ending protest violence.

"For the government to resort to measures that will appease the violent rioters, I don't think that is the solution," she told reporters.

Hong Kong has been gripped for more than four months of protests, with peaceful but often unauthorized marches descending into chaos as hardcore demonstrators and police in violent street clashes, with both sides blaming each other for using increasingly aggressive tactics.

Lam also said the city is at risk of falling into a recession as it enters its fifth month of protests, which has hit the city's tourism and retail industries.

"If this quarter's growth rate, compared to the second quarter's growth rate, is negative, it will be the second decline in a row. Then it can be said that we have entered a technical recession," she said, adding that the economy could end up contracting for the year as a whole.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Powerful quake shakes southern Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A powerful earthquake has shaken the southern Philippines. No damage reports were immediately available. The U.S. Geological Survey says the 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck Tuesday morning on Mindanao island in the south. Philippine seismologists said it was a lower magnitude of 6.4. It was near the town of Kisanate and less than 100 kilometers (60 miles) from Davao City. It was about 50 kilometers (30 miles) deep. Mindanao has been shaken by other earthquakes recently. Seismic activity is common in the Philippines, which lies on the Pacific "Ring of Fire," the ring of faults around the Pacific Ocean where most of the world's earthquakes occur.

Vietnam takes forensic samples to help in truck deaths case

YEN THANH, Vietnam (AP)—Police have taken forensic samples from people in central Vietnam who believe their family members may be among the 39 victims found dead in a container truck in England last week. Up to 24 Vietnamese families had reported their missing family members to local authorities as of Sunday afternoon, the VNExpress news website reported. Police took hair, fingernail and other forensic samples from the family members in Nghe An province to try to help identify the suspected trafficking victims who were found Wednesday in the vehicle container in an industrial park in southeastern England. Thirteen people in Nghe An's Yen Thanh district have been reported missing, with relatives fearing they were on the truck. At their home in the district's Tho Thanh village, the mother and a brother of Vo Ngoc Nam were awaiting news from the U.K. after not hearing from him for a week. "We suspect that he was in the container in

which people died. We don't know what's going on, but we think it's true," Nam's older brother Vo Ngoc Chuyen said.

Shark bites 2 British men on Australia's Great Barrier Reef

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—A shark bit off a British tourist's foot and mauled another British tourist's leg on Tuesday as the men snorkeled on Australia's Great Barrier Reef, officials said. The men aged 22 and 28 had been on a snorkeling tour in the Whitsunday Islands when they were attacked, tour organizer ZigZag Whitsundays said. They were brought 11 kilometers (7 miles) by boat to the mainland town of Airlie Beach where paramedics were waiting for them, Queensland state Ambulance Service spokeswoman Mel Mangan said. They were then flown by helicopter south to a hospital in the city of Mackay in serious but stable conditions, RACQ CQ Rescue said. "An English tourist has had his foot bitten off and another has serious lacerations to his lower leg after a shark attack in the Whitsundays today," the helicopter rescue service said in a statement. The victims told the helicopter crew "they were wrestling and thrashing about in the water" in a passage between Hayman and Whitsunday Islands when they were attacked, the statement said. The 28-year-old man lost his foot, the Mackay Base Hospital said in a statement. A shark killed a man in November last year in a Whitsunday Island harbor where two tourists had been mauled a month earlier. The 33-year-old victim had been diving from a paddle board while on a yacht cruise. The spate of attacks in the Whitsundays left authorities struggling to explain an apparent escalation in danger in the internationally renowned vacation destination. In September last year, two Australian tourists were mauled on consecutive days, one a 12-year-old girl who lost a leg.

US Afghan peace envoy takes push for peace to Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Washington's Afghan peace envoy remained in Pakistan on Tuesday as part of efforts to find a negotiated end to Afghanistan's 18-year war, even though President Donald Trump hasn't expressed any interest in resuming talks with the Taliban.

The envoy, Zalmay Khalilzad, met with Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan on Monday and was expected to hold talks with the country's powerful military army chief on Tuesday.

Officials in Pakistan, where the Taliban's governing council is believed to be headquartered, has been pushing for a resumption of direct U.S.-Taliban talks since they collapsed in early September after Trump declared a deal that seemed imminent dead. Trump's declaration followed a series of violent attacks in the Afghan capital that killed several people, including a U.S. soldier.

During their meeting Monday, Khan called on all sides in Afghanistan's protracted war to reduce the violence.

Civilian casualties have been rising fast in recent

months, according to the United Nations which blames both insurgents and U.S. and Afghan government security forces. So far this year there have been more than 8,000 casualties.

For the first time the United Nations reported earlier this year that U.S. and Afghan security forces killed more civilians than insurgents.

Khan said in a statement that it was "important for all sides to take practical steps for the reduction of violence in Afghanistan."

The Taliban's political spokesman Suhail Shaheen said Saturday that if the United States signs the agreement Trump declared dead there will be a cease-fire first with U.S. and NATO troops followed by a negotiated cease-fire with Afghan Security Forces.

"If the U.S. returns to the negotiation table and signs the agreement then there will be a cease-fire and reduction of violence," Shaheen said.

Khalilzad arrived in Pakistan from Afghanistan, where he met with leaders including President Ashraf Ghani, who has mostly dismissed any talks not led by

his government.

But Afghanistan's leadership has just come out of a presidential election that has been marred by allegations of corruption and fraud and nearly a month after Afghans went to the polls, in seemingly low numbers, no results have been released. Preliminary results are now expected on Nov. 14.

Ghani and his current partner in a so-called unity government, Abdullah Abdullh, are the leading contenders for president. The two men jointly lead Afghanistan's unity government cobbled together by the U.S. after the 2014 presidential elections were so deeply flawed a clear winner could not be determined.

Before his stop in Afghanistan, Khalilzad was in Moscow meeting with Chinese and Russian representatives as well as holding yet another meeting with Pakistani officials.

Following that meeting a statement was released calling for all sides to reduce violence and get back to talking about finding a peaceful end to a devastatingly long war.

World

IS victims see satisfaction but no closure in leader's death

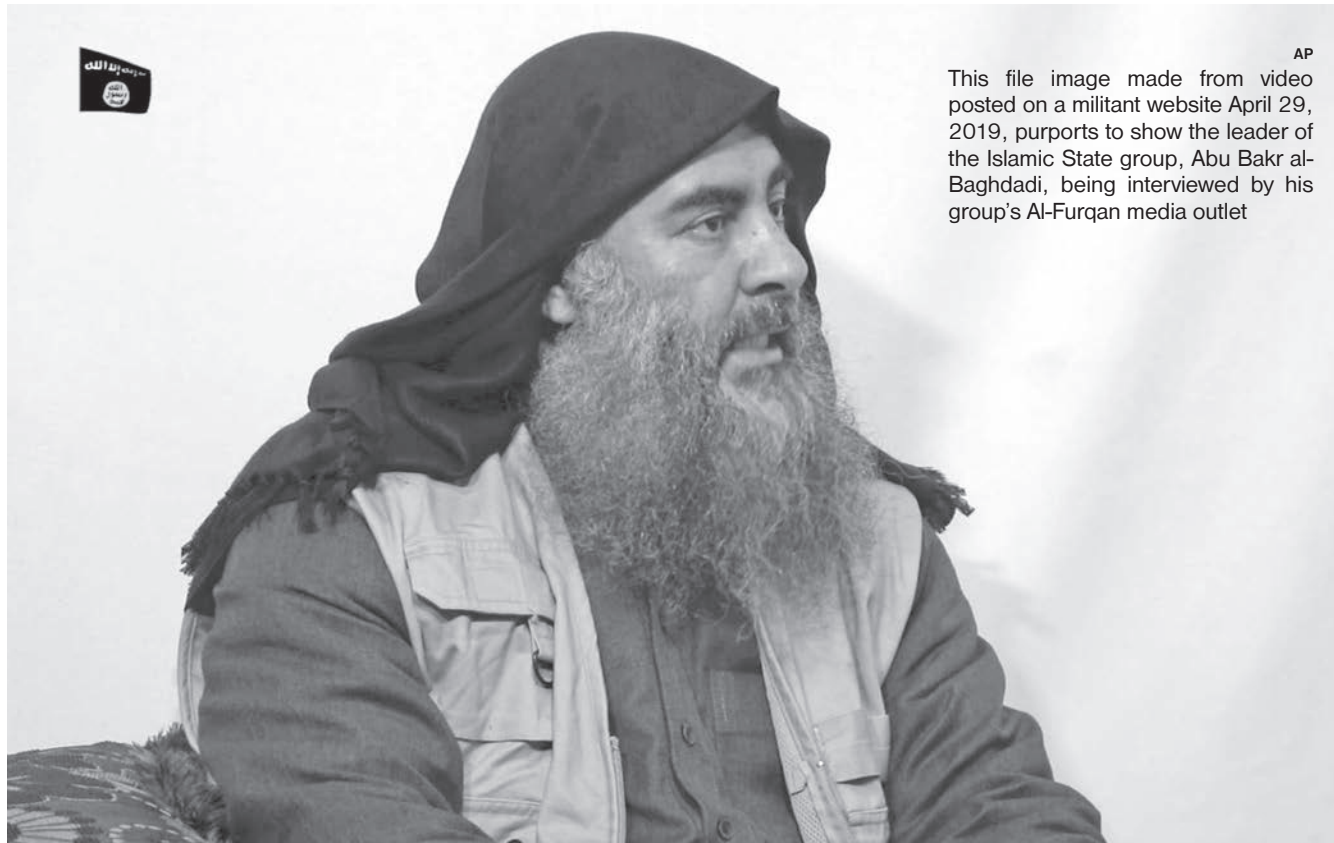
PARIS (AP)—For Georges Salines, whose 28-year-old daughter Lola was killed when Islamic extremists went on a bloody rampage in Paris in 2015, the death of the man who inspired the attack brought a welcome “sense of satisfaction.”

But like other survivors and families of victims of the Islamic State group, Salines stressed that the death of its leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, does not mean the fight against terrorism is over.

“It would have been even better if al-Baghdadi could have been captured and sent to trial,” Salines told The Associated Press. “That was probably impossible. We knew that for a long time.”

Al-Baghdadi was responsible for directing and inspiring attacks by his followers around the world. In Iraq and Syria, he steered his organization into committing acts of brutality on a mass scale: massacres of his opponents; beheadings and stonings that were broadcast to a shocked audience on the internet; and the kidnapping and enslavement of women.

His death was announced Sunday by U.S. President Donald Trump, who said al-Baghdadi detonated an explosive vest while being pursued by U.S. forces in Syria, killing himself and three of his children. It was another major blow to the Islamic State group, which in March was forced by U.S. and Kurdish forces out of the last part of its self-declared “caliphate” that



AP
This file image made from video posted on a militant website April 29, 2019, purports to show the leader of the Islamic State group, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, being interviewed by his group's Al-Furqan media outlet

once spanned a swath of Iraq and Syria at its height.

The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the Nov. 13, 2015, attacks on Paris cafes, the national stadium and the Bataclan concert hall that left 130 people dead, including Lola Salines and Thomas Duperron, 30.

Duperron's father, Philippe, who is president of French victims' association 13onze15, which takes its name from the date of the attacks, said al-Baghdadi's death was “not bad news.”

“One major player of the Islamic state group's actions has dis-

appeared,” he told AP, although he said that his group would not express joy at any death.

A trial of suspects in the Paris attacks is expected to begin in 2021. French prosecutors said this month that the judicial investigation of the attacks has ended and that 1,740 plaintiffs have joined the proceedings. Fourteen people have been charged in the case, including Salah Abdeslam, the only surviving suspect of the group of assailants.

French magistrates had recently issued an international arrest warrant for al-Baghdadi in a counterterrorism inves-

tigation for “heading or organizing a criminal terrorist conspiracy.”

Arthur Denouveaux, a Bataclan survivor and president of the Life for Paris victims' group, told the French newspaper Le Parisien “us, the victims, are not seeking revenge ... but a desire for justice.”

Al-Baghdadi's death is “symbolically is a major blow to the operational capacities” of the IS group, he said.

“It is essential to continue the fight for the security of the region and also of European countries,” Denouveaux added.

The IS group claimed re-

sponsibility for three suicide bombings in Brussels on March 22, 2016, that killed 32 people at its airport and in a metro station.



Philippe Vansteenkiste, who lost his sister in the airport bombing and went on to become director of V-Europe, an association of victims of those attacks, said he knows the fight is not over.

“This is a new step in the fight against Daesh, but I'm not naive,” Vansteenkiste said, using an Arabic acronym for the militant group. “Their spiritual leader has been hit, but Daesh and many sleeping cells still exist, either in Syria or in our country.”

Fresh protests, looting erupt in Chile despite new Cabinet

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)—Fresh protests and attacks on businesses erupted in Chile Monday despite President Sebastián Piñera's replacement of eight key Cabinet ministers with more centrist figures and his attempts to assure the country he has heard calls for greater equality and improved social services.

Thousands of protesters crowded again into central Santiago, and one group set fire to a building that houses a fast-food restaurant and stores. Firefighters were battling the blaze.

Other looters attacked a pharmacy, and there was an attempt to set a subway station on fire. Meanwhile, hundreds of thousands of people attempted to get home from work on free buses sent to replace trains out of service due to the burning of dozens of stations over the last week in Latin America's most modern public transportation system.

By Monday evening the streets were mostly empty, with piles of detritus burning on street corners, and some residents and business owners trying to extinguish blazes with handheld fire extinguishers. At least a couple dozen glass storefronts were smashed and

graffiti cursing Piñera and calling for revolution was sprayed on virtually every building.

Piñera replaced the heads of the interior, treasury, economy, labor and four other ministries with generally younger officials seen as more centrist and accessible.

“Chile has changed and the government must change,” Chile's president said.

However, his government announced no policies Monday aimed at addressing 10 days of protests over deficient social services and the high cost of living in one of Latin America's most prosperous and modern nations.

“A new Cabinet isn't enough, we need real changes in health care, education, pensions,” said Omar Soto, 34, who runs a cellphone shop.

Protesters almost uniformly say they are frustrated with the so-called neoliberal model that has left Chile with region-topping prosperity along with a widely criticized private pension system, and two-tiered health and education systems that blend the public and private, with better results for the minority who can afford to pay.

EU delays Brexit to Jan. 31; Johnson election bid fails

LONDON (AP)—Britain got Brexit breathing space but no clarity on Monday when the European Union granted a three-month delay to the U.K.'s departure from the bloc, postponing it until Jan. 31.

British politicians immediately began using the extra time to do what they have done for more than three years: bicker about Brexit.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson pushed for an early election as a way of breaking the political deadlock over the country's stalled departure from the EU, only to be rebuffed by lawmakers.

Legislators voted by 299-70 for Johnson's motion to hold a Dec. 12 election—short of the two-thirds majority of the 650 members of Parliament needed for it to pass.

Still, an election appears inevitable well before the next scheduled one in 2022 if Britain is to move on from the stasis caused by a prime minister who

vowed to deliver Brexit “do or die” and a Parliament that has repeatedly thwarted him.

Johnson said he would try again Tuesday, using a different procedure: a bill, which only needs a simple majority to pass.

“We will not allow this paralysis to continue, and one way or another we must proceed straight to an election,” Johnson said.

Earlier, he had accused his opponents of betraying voters' decision to leave the EU by thwarting the government's Brexit plans.

He said that unless there was an election, the government would be “like Charlie Brown, endlessly running up to kick the ball only to have Parliament whisk it away.”

“We cannot continue with this endless delay.”

Yet further delay stretched ahead after the EU agreed to postpone Brexit until Jan. 31, acting to avert a chaotic U.K. departure just three days

before Britain was due to become the first country ever to leave the 28-nation bloc.

After a short meeting of diplomats in Brussels, European Council President Donald Tusk tweeted that the EU's 27 other countries would accept the U.K.'s request for a “flexextension.” Under the terms of the agreement, the U.K. can leave before Jan. 31—on Dec. 1 or Jan 1—if the British and European parliaments both ratify a Brexit divorce agreement.

It's the third time the Brexit deadline has been changed since British voters decided in a 2016 referendum to leave the bloc.

The decision was welcomed by politicians in the U.K. and the EU as a temporary respite from Brexit anxiety—but not by Johnson, who said just weeks ago that he would “rather be dead in a ditch” than postpone the U.K.'s leaving date past Oct. 31.

In the end, the choice was

not in his hands. The U.K. Parliament forced Johnson to ask for a delay to avoid a no-deal Brexit, which would hurt the economies of both Britain and the EU.

In a letter to Tusk, Johnson said that under U.K. law “I have no discretion to do anything other than confirm the U.K.'s formal agreement to this extension.”

But he called the delay “unwanted” and said it was “imposed on this government against its will.”

Johnson urged the 27 other EU countries “to make clear that a further extension after 31 January is not possible.”

Johnson took office in July vowing to “get Brexit done” after his predecessor, Theresa May, resigned in defeat. Parliament had rejected her divorce deal with the bloc three times, and the EU had delayed Britain's scheduled March 29 departure, first to April, and then to October.

Focus

By **BANI SAPRA**
AP BUSINESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—Washington, D.C., has dangled hotel discounts tied to the Chinese Lunar New Year.

Arizona has promoted its outdoor attractions to draw visitors during another popular Chinese holiday.

San Francisco has expanded its social media presence on Chinese apps to market year-round travel to millennial tourists.

Across the country, the U.S. tourism industry is trying to counter one of the casualties of the trade war with China that is still raging despite a temporary truce this month: A drop in the flow of affluent Chinese visitors to the U.S. As the conflict has dragged on for 15 months with no meaningful breakthrough, the travel industry is trying to minimize the damage.

It has good reason. An enlarged Chinese middle class has become a lucrative market for the U.S. travel industry. Close to 3 million Chinese tourists visited the U.S. last year. And they spent liberally: An estimated average of \$6,700 per person per trip—exceeding the average spending of international tourists by more than 50%—according to the U.S. Travel Association.

Concerns among U.S. tourism agencies have grown as Beijing has warned that Chinese travelers to the United States may face harassment. Compounding the problem is increased difficulty in obtaining U.S. visas.

The number of visitors from China dropped nearly 4% in the first half of this year after a nearly 6% drop in 2018. More broadly, the U.S. share of the global travel market has slipped in the past year, and travel and hospitality groups blame the trade conflicts and intensified competition from rival countries. To close the gap, they've urged the government to extend funding for the U.S. national tourism marketing agency and to work more closely with overseas trade fairs and tour groups.

At the same time, tourism marketing agencies for states and cities are hedging their bets by intensifying their outreach to countries other than China. Utah and Los Angeles, among others, are trying to expand their presence in nations like India, whose large and youthful middle class is seen as a potentially rich source of tourist dollars.

Yet there is no easy way to replace a drop in Chinese tourism. Some U.S. tourism agencies say they worry that Chinese travelers feel unwel-



US travel industry to Chinese tourists: What trade war?

come in the country under the Trump administration. Warnings from Beijing about traveling to the U.S. have likely reinforced that view.

"With the trade war, with some of the travel warnings, with some of our visa challenges that we've had, we've seen a little bit of a dip in Chinese visitors," said Theresa Belpulsi, a senior official at Destination DC, the city's tourism marketing office.

Tourism is one of the few industries where the U.S. has enjoyed a substantial advantage over China. In 2018, Chinese tourists traveling to the U.S. spent \$30 billion more than American tourists visiting China did. Yet that edge may be shrinking.

"The U.S. is just losing market share," said Adam Sacks, president of consulting company Tourism Economics. "Something's made the U.S. uncompetitive, and I would target the trade war as one of the reasons."

Larry Yu, a professor of hospitality management at George Washington University, warns that once impressions of an unwelcome environment take

hold, they're hard to erase.

"The trade war creates a kind of environment in China that makes people think twice," Yu said. "Even though we know that Chinese demand is high, the current environment makes people substitute the U.S. for another place."

Beijing has issued two warnings to would-be visitors to the United States—one about gun violence, the other about harassment by U.S. law enforcement.

Visa approvals for Chinese visitors have meanwhile become more difficult. The rejection rate for Chinese tourist visa applications to the U.S. reached 17% in the 2018 fiscal year from a low of 8.5% in 2013.

Some tourism companies are feeling squeezed. DFS Hawaii, which operates duty-free stores in Hawaiian airports, plans to shed a quarter of its workforce and has pointed to a drop-off in tourists from China and elsewhere in Asia as a reason. As of August, Chinese tourist visits to Hawaii are down 27% this year.

"There is no foreseeable indication this will be reversed in the near term," said Tim De-

Lessio of the DFS Group, parent company of DFS Hawaii.

Sacks of Tourism Economics says he holds out hope that local travel marketing agencies can reverse the trend. The District of Columbia, for one, says its outreach to China has intensified. Destination DC's latest initiative—hotel discounts for the Lunar New Year early in 2020, with events and performances tailored for Chinese tourists—builds on a sister-city partnership with Beijing.

San Francisco's social media expansion to three new Chinese apps marks its latest effort to draw more Chinese tourists. Ads the city created and hosted on two popular Chinese apps, WeChat and Weibo, drove 12 million people to a contest promoting the city's landmarks, according to the San Francisco Travel Association.

Meanwhile, Arizona leveraged social media and Ctrip, a Chinese travel website, to urge visitors to check out the state's outdoor and wellness activities during the popular Golden Week holiday period this month.

But the number of Chinese who traveled abroad fell 15%

during the week-long holiday compared with a year ago, according to the Chinese government. Many would-be tourists opted to stay home and experience the celebrations planned for the 70th anniversary of Communist Party rule.

At a gathering of industry CEOs in September, leading travel brands urged the government to stem the eroding U.S. share of the global market by guaranteeing future funding for Brand USA, a tourism marketing agency. Entry fees paid by international travelers entering the United States fund that agency. But its dedicated funding expires next year. If it does, tourism from China and other countries could drop, travel industry officials warn, and American jobs might be put at risk.

"Without Brand USA, we would be in an even worse situation vis-a-vis our international competitors," said Heather McCrory, CEO of Accor, a leading hotel group.

Even New York City, which enjoyed a surge in tourism this year thanks in part to the new Hudson Yards develop-

ment and World Pride Day, has grown concerned about attracting Chinese visitors.

"We can't control the market conditions," said Christopher Heywood of NYC & Company, the city's official tourism marketing agency. "The geopolitics comes into play."

In the meantime, some U.S. competitors may gain an edge. The European Travel Commission, which says Europe welcomed 14 million Chinese last year, has joined with its Chinese counterparts at travel shows and partnered with Chinese celebrities to share videos and social media posts involving Europe.

American tourism agencies say they're seeking other potential sources of visitors in India and elsewhere. But Indian tourists are still less accustomed to traveling in the United States.

"There's a great deal of interest," said Jamie Foley of the Los Angeles Tourism and Convention Board. "But that comes with the understanding that India is very different from China."

Left with little choice, the U.S. travel industry is redoubling its efforts to engage with Chinese tourists while waiting out the trade war.

"The trade war's an important subject, but it's seen as a temporary setback," said Sage Brennan, co-founder of the consulting firm China Luxury Advisors. "Over the next 20 to 30 years, China is going to continue to impact and shape the tourism market."

Mindful of that likelihood, David O'Donnell of the Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau, said that city has built a pipeline of projects to try to drive tourism from China. Boston is working with China's Hainan Airlines to showcase the city and with Boston's airports to develop additional routes to China. It's also seeking partnerships with China Union Pay and Ctrip, the Chinese travel website.

"Are we concerned that the trade war may impact the travel trade?" O'Donnell said. "Of course. Are we frustrated by new and more restrictive visa policies? Absolutely. But we know that Boston will always be very appealing to the China market. We are in to stay."

AP

Good Housekeeping

ON GARDENING:

October Magic camellias

put you in a gardening frame of mind for fall

TNS
October Magic camellias come in eleven varieties, each with an exquisite shape and form.



TNS
October Magic Orchid resembles a fine piece of China.



TNS

October Magic Ruby is small and compact and loads up with an uncountable number of flowers.

By **NORMAN WINTER**
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

October Magic camellias have captured The Garden Guy's heart in recent years with blooms that are nothing short of exquisite and of a size and vigor of plant that seems perfect for the landscape. I have

had camellia sasanquas that reached the second story and took a pretty tall ladder to do a little trimming.

When you think about October, it is usually a time that you catch your breath a little, you realize you survived an oppressive end to summer and all of a sudden you feel like doing a little gardening. It's hard

to even believe that there are shrubs that start their blooms in October. By all means, you've got to have them.

October Magic is a series within the Southern Living Plant Collection that features eleven varieties. There are a variety of colors and textures with blooms that will leave you mesmerized. You'll find blooms that are ruffled like October Magic Carpet as well as those like October Magic Dawn and October Magic Inspiration that look like they were handpainted by an artist brush.

You will most likely find the color of camellia you are looking for in this group. They

all excel in providing the welcoming blooms as well as the bones or evergreen structure needed in the home landscape. You'll relish the fact that each of these October Magic camellias has a wide range of cold-hardiness, recommended for zones 7-9. They are ideally suited for the high shade or filtered light garden, though sasanquas can tolerate more sun than most imagine.

Fall is a great time to plant and inventories of camellias are normally at their highest now. Roots increase dramatically during the cool season allowing the plant to get acclimated and take off once growth resumes in the spring.

Camellias require organic-rich, well-drained acidic soil. In the landscape, put them in a bed versus surrounded by turf. Prepare the area by incorporating 3- to 4-inches of organic matter, tilling deeply. Remember you want to avoid wet feet as much as possible. Dig the planting hole three times as wide as the root ball but no deeper.

The wide holes allow for the quickest root-expansion and thus acclimation to your home's landscape. Place the camellia in the hole planting 1- to 2-inches above the soil surface. Backfill with soil, tamp and water to settle. If needed, add more soil and finish the project by applying a good layer of mulch.

Camellias typically don't require a lot of pruning. Shape your camellias in the early spring as needed, just before the flush of growth. Dead or weak wood can be removed anytime. Feed your camellias with an azalea camellia fertilizer in the spring coinciding with the return of growth. Follow label recommendations and always err on the side of caution that two light applications are better than one big one.

October Magic Ruby is one of my all-time favorites. I feel the bulk of the garden world simply doesn't know about this small compact grower that has about the same habit as Shishi Gashira. It loads up with an uncountable number of buds that open up all fall. The flowers are fully double and perfect to get you into the holiday spirit.

At The Garden Guy's house, I have them partnered

in one area with Yewtopia Plum Yew. There is just something to love about this combination of conifers like needles and ruby red flowers. In another area I have them partnered with Paul's Gold Chamaecyparis. This bright gold needled conifer adjacent to ruby red flowers is nothing short of dazzling. It's kind of like a piece of fine jewelry albeit a plant growing in the landscape.

I also love October Magic Orchid. Wow, you are talking camellia blossoms resembling rare china. These blooms are semi-double, white to blush with orchid pink highlights. These plants reach about 5-feet tall and 3- to 4-feet wide. I combined these with Autumn Ivory Encore Azalea and Purple Daydream loropetalum.

Now is a great time to shop for, and plant, October Magic camellias.

The Garden Bug

Witches' Butter

This mushroom is found on dead trees, especially oaks. It has a yellow, irregular, jelly-like appearance. It is edible, with little flavor, but the texture and color can be appealing. It can be used in cooking as an addition to soups and stews. The full-time job of this fungus is digesting the tissues of another kind of fungus that lives off the rotting tree. It is therefore a parasite of a parasite! To recreate, it disperses spores, which float away.

— B. Weaver

Source: nature.mdc.mo.gov

Life & Style



Auli'i Cravalho will provide the singing voice for Ariel in ABC's special "The Wonderful World of Disney Presents The Little Mermaid Live!" premiering on Nov. 5.

ANDREW ECCLES/ABC/TNS

'THE LITTLE MERMAID LIVE!'

bringing beloved tale to new heights

By **LUAINE LEE**
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

I imagine a Disney cartoon that melts into a live musical. That's just what ABC is planning for Nov. 5. And if it sounds a little bit remarkable, it is. The hybrid will commemorate the 30th anniversary of Disney's ever-green animated movie "The Little Mermaid."

The special will accomplish that by airing the movie, which will transition into 10 live musical numbers from the movie as well as from the Broadway show.

The live part of "The Wonderful World of Disney Presents The Little Mermaid Live!" will feature Hawaii born singer-actress Auli'i Cravalho as Ariel. Cravalho is best known for starring in the title role of Disney's "Moana." Grammy-winning reggae artist Shaggy will portray Sebastian the crab. And the production will co-star Queen Latifah as Ursula, the villainous octopus, Graham Phillips as Prince Eric and John Stamos as the French chef.

"(It'll be) live action, then a blend

of live and the original feature, then into the original feature," explains executive producer Hamish Hamilton. "So basically it's kind of a live transitional graphic show," he says.

"The original feature will exist exactly as it always has, and we all love it, and then when we come to a song, we will transition from the original to the new, and there's a separation of everything there," he says.

The entire movie is being scored again to create a continuity and flow from one dimension to the other, and it's being done by original composer Alan Menken.

Menken, with his late lyricist Howard Ashman, wrote the original songs for "The Little Mermaid," as well as "Beauty and the Beast" and "Aladdin," though Ashman died before Aladdin was completed (Menken finished the project).

Menken describes how he composes for features. "I try to always let my music come from characters and story exclusively, and not really from me," he says.

"It comes through me, in a way. And so I think the characters and the stories speak to people, and I'd like to think that the craft of what we create brings that to life in a memorable and provocative way. We try to be true to a stylistic point of view or a particular cultural bend, whatever it is, but always try to have interesting inspiration for songs. And I think that really resonates with people."

The Jamaican-born Shaggy is thrilled to be part of the singular project. "I have three daughters, and I had to sit down and watch this movie, the original movie, over and over and over and over and over and over again," he smiles.

"And I feel like Sebastian is me because after a while, you are watching it, and your girls are there, and because they are reciting every line to it, you've got to join in at some point because that's the only way you are getting points as a dad. And years ago, actually, I recorded 'Under the Sea' in 1996. And I kind of did almost like kind of a rap ver-

sion. It's funny how things come full circle," he says.

There's a trick to selling a song, says Shaggy. "The great thing about making records and singing songs is you have to believe it," he says.

"I have to sing it to you so you believe it and you feel it. The good thing about 'The Little Mermaid' when I watched it, its emotions, and its relatable emotions to people. This is why this story has survived so long because it is relatable to everybody. It's a love story. There is good, there is evil. All of that is embodied into this. And that's a part of our everyday life."

Menken likes that Shaggy incorporated a rap sound to his song. "I generally think of myself like an architect. I design a house that other people will live in," says Menken.

"And I've been very fortunate that very talented people have lived in those houses or built those houses. I'll be very involved the first time around with something. And then after that, there's a structure that other people can take on. And it evolves through different forms."

When he adapted "The Little Mermaid" for Broadway he says he reformulated the piece into two acts. "Going to television, you're dealing with a whole other format," says Menken. "So those changes are necessary for that and also (for the) visuals. It's on a case-by-case basis if I get involved with particular changes. And it really just depends on the project at hand," he says.

"Generally, I really like kind of being the grandpa. My children are born. They're out in the world, and they're finding their own way."

COUNTRY 'SQUARES' ARRIVES FRIDAY

"Hollywood Squares" is going country with the new game show "CMT's Nashville Squares," premiering on CMT Friday with host Bob Saget. Following the tic-tac-toe model for the old "Hollywood Squares," the series will feature squares and contestants like comedian Bill Engvall, Tanya Tucker, Sara Evans, Ty Pennington, Melissa Peterman, Marie Osmond and many more.

The show will offer musical moments and, of course, the unpredictable ad libs. Engvall himself started as a stand-up and was mighty handy with the ad libs. But he worked a long time before he was successful.

"When I did 'The Tonight Show' with Johnny Carson, I'd heard once you do 'The Tonight Show' you're going. I did it and the set went great, and I sat back waiting for the phone to ring, and it never did. Why is this not working right? That was in the '90s. I was still in the clubs and hadn't made that jump yet. I think there's a reason that God didn't let me have success when I was young because I would've screwed it up. Now I'm older and have a family and I know what's important," he says.

"I sign autographs because I understand if it wasn't for the fans I wouldn't be here. My fans are the most important thing in the world, other than my family."

PAXTON HONORED AT FILM FESTIVAL

One of the Hollywood losses most devastating to me was that of Bill Paxton, who died at 61 from a stroke following heart surgery. When I last interviewed Paxton he'd already achieved star status in Hollywood with films like "Titanic," "Twister," "Apollo 13" and my favorite, "A Simple Plan."

He was still keenly aware of his place among us and his debt to society. "I've had to be compromising at times, but feel I haven't lived up to my responsibility," he told me.

"I've been very lucky in that I can do more for my family and friends. You're given talents you either use and exploit for greater good, or you use them for more selfish purposes. Obviously an actor's life in Hollywood is a very selfish kind of life," he said.

"We're in the humanity business, which is a good thing ... but I think I've been pretty self-centered—and I've had to be—and I feel I have a greater purpose that I haven't completely lived up to. I can organize things. I produced (the movie) 'Traveler,' was able to employ people ... I can do more of that," he said.

"My role model is Tom Hanks and people who've taken their positions and created things and put a lot of people to work. If I don't do that, I'll feel like I have shirked my responsibilities."

Although Hollywood is quick to jump on the next bandwagon, the Ojai Film Festival will honor Paxton with an award named after him to be given to the best locally produced film at their awards brunch on Sunday. Ojai is a community 80 miles north of Los Angeles where Paxton lived part of the time. His son, James, 25, will present the award.

STAR-STUDDED CAST DEVOURS 'GREEN EGGS'

Ellen DeGeneres had no trouble lining up talent for Netflix's new series "Green Eggs and Ham." The animated show, based on Dr. Seuss's wonderful 1960s book, features star voices like Michael Douglas, Diane Keaton, Keegan-Michael Key, Adam Devine, Tracy Morgan and John Turturro.

DeGeneres is just one of five producers on the show (including its creator Jared Stern). The 13 {hour series premieres Nov. 8. Douglas plays Guy-Am-I, with Devine portraying the famous Sam-I-Am. Keaton is the overprotective Michellee.

Keaton confesses that her years of fame from films like "Annie Hall," "The Godfather Part III" and "Something's Gotta Give," have made her what she calls "a little protective."

"Everyone has a problem dealing with celebrity," she says. "Even if they're embracing it completely and they're totally happy about the whole thing, it's still a problem. But it's not a bad problem to have."

Luaine Lee is a California-based correspondent who covers entertainment for Tribune News Service.

John Waters chosen as one of the new faces of Nike

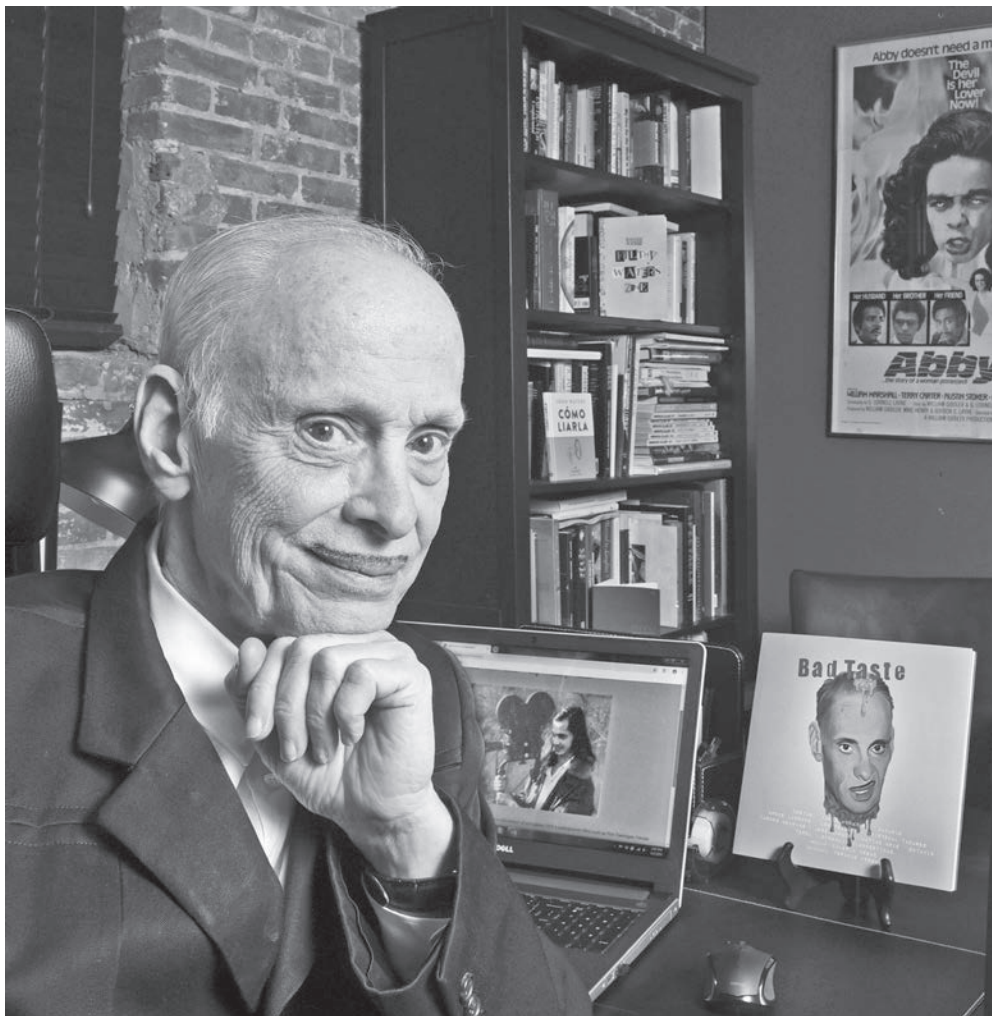
By CHRIS KALTENBACH
THE BALTIMORE SUN

Reprobate supreme John Waters, who once featured a pair of smelly tennis shoes in his movie “Polyester,” complete with a scratch-and-sniff Odorama card that captured their distinctive smell, has been chosen by Nike as one of the faces of a new line of designer footwear.

Although not known for distinctive footwear or for being the sort of athlete normally featured in Nike ads, Waters’ renegade spirit apparently fits in line with the image designer Olivia Kim, vice president for creative projects at Nordstrom, wants for her new shoe line, part of what has been dubbed the “No Cover” collection.

“I’ve always been inspired by John, because he’s always pushed the boundaries in his work,” Kim says in a news release on the Nike website. “He tells simple stories in a humorous, thoughtful and provocative way.”

Says Waters, “I’m the most unlikely spokesman that Nike could ever have.” Which,



John Waters, Baltimore filmmaker, writer, artist and performer, in his Hampden office in May 2019. AMY DAVIS/BALTIMORE SUN/TNS

of course, is why he was happy to sign on when his agent called with the offer. “I love to do things that people wouldn’t expect.”

Waters says he spent a day in New York, doing a photo and video shoot, and having a blast. “I wish my dad were alive,” he said. “He’d probably be more shocked by this than anything I’ve ever done.”

The shoes are designed to evoke a distinct vibe “rooted in the rave and hip-hop styles defining ‘90s New York,” Nike says on its website. The new designs will adorn several Nike shoe offerings, including the Nike Air Force 1, Air Mowabb, Air Footscape, Air Max 98 and Air Jordan IV. The “No Cover” line also includes 16 apparel and accessory pieces.

Clearly, these are shoes and apparel designed to stand out in a crowd. “The collection features vibrant pink, volt, blue, orange and red colors,” the Nike release says, “with the fleece hoodies and graphic tees featuring mini swooshes in glitter pink.” Just as Waters stands out in a crowd—not

only because of his distinctive appearance (no one rocks a pencil-thin mustache like John Waters), but because of the singular outfits he’s been known to wear. At this year’s Independent Spirit Awards, for instance, he walked the red carpet in a sports jacket decorated with birds and tree branches.

The “No Cover” collection will be available beginning Oct. 31 at Nordstrom x Nike boutiques, including the new Manhattan location at Nordstrom NYC, online at Nordstrom.com/xNike and on the SNKRS app. They’ll become available at more stores on Nov. 8.

Waters is one of at least three people being used in the ad campaign for “No Cover.” The others are women’s soccer star Megan Rapinoe and fashion model Binx Walton. As far as we know, neither of them put smelly tennis shoes on an Odorama card.

“It’s just another irony in my life,” Waters says. Reminded of the scene in “Polyester,” he adds “I’m a firm believer that Nike tennis shoes never stink, no matter how dirty your feet are.”

Taylor Swift can’t shake off copyright suit over her 2014 hit

LOS ANGELES—Taylor Swift won’t escape so easily after all from allegations that her 2014 hit “Shake It Off” illegally copied the lyrics of “Playas Gon’ Play.”

The U.S. Court of Appeals in San Francisco on Monday overturned a judge’s ruling throwing out the copyright infringement lawsuit by the two songwriters of the 2001 track by female group 3LW.

The appeals court disagreed with the judge’s conclusion that the lyrics of the 2001 song—“playas, they gonna play, and haters, they gonna hate”—weren’t original enough to be entitled copyright protection.

It wasn’t for the judge to decide the “worth of an expressive work,” the appellate court said, citing a 1903 U.S. Supreme Court decision that

cautioned those trained only in the law against making themselves final judges of creative works.

The decision is a setback for hit makers who are trying to turn the tide of copyright lawsuits over smallish musical phrases that they argue aren’t protected by the law.

The same appellate court is weighing for the second time whether Led Zeppelin stole



Swift

the opening chords of “Stairway to Heaven” from an obscure 1968 instrumental track by a California band. A three-judge panel last year threw out a jury verdict favoring Led Zeppelin. (Bloomberg News)

NY ballet crowd fetes Herman Cornejo on 20th ABT anniversary

NEW YORK (AP)—On a night full of balletic leaps, the most joyous came during curtain calls, when iconic American choreographer Twyla Tharp bounded into the arms of dancer Herman Cornejo to celebrate his 20th anniversary on the New York stage.

Cornejo, a dashing figure with a mop of dark hair and a breathtaking leap himself, has been a favorite of New York ballet audiences ever since he set foot on the American Ballet Theatre stage as a teenager from Argentina two decades ago.

On Saturday night at Lincoln Center’s David H. Koch Theater, the company honored his milestone with showers of confetti, garlands of flowers and a special ballet choreographed by Tharp, “A Gathering of Ghosts.”

The evening began with Cornejo, all in white, performing the title role in George Balanchine’s “Apollo,” debuting in the classic role at the

seasoned age of 38. It proved a perfect match for his dramatic sensibilities and his physical gifts of a feather-light jump and superb control. Dancing opposite him as Terpsichore was ballerina Misty Copeland, a longtime and frequent partner.

Next came a short film in which Cornejo, as narrator, introduced himself. “Dance has given me a beautiful way of living,” he said, noting how he first became enamored with ballet as an 8-year-old boy in Buenos Aires, when he saw a production of “Spartacus.” He spoke of the influence of his sister, Erica Cornejo, a former ABT dancer who recently retired from Boston Ballet.

Then Erica Cornejo herself came onstage for “El Chamuyo,” a tango-inspired duet with her brother, a brief but crowd-pleasing piece to music by Francisco Canaro and choreography by Ana Maria Stekelman.

The evening ended with Tharp’s new work, a whimsi-

cal piece in which Cornejo, in a matador-like jumpsuit in black and shiny silver, played “host” to ghosts including Louis XIV, Marie Antoinette, Proust and a character called “Greased Lightning.”

Then came the curtain calls, the ovations, the confetti descending from the rafters, and Tharp, extremely limber at 78, leaping into Cornejo’s arms and wrapping her legs around him.

Cornejo joined ABT in 1999 and swiftly moved through the ranks, becoming a soloist in 2000 and a principal in 2003. Though he captured the hearts of audiences with his superb technique, his relatively short stature—he is 5-foot-6—prevented him at first from getting the romantic leads in traditional story ballets.

But that gradually changed, and he now dances roles like Romeo, Siegfried in “Swan Lake,” and the prince in “The Sleeping Beauty,” among many others.

Stars advocate for progress at honorary Oscars event

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Inequality in the film industry got a high-profile spotlight at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences’ 11th annual Governors Awards, where Cherokee actor Wes Studi, Italian director Lina Wertmüller and filmmaker David Lynch all received honorary Oscars on Sunday.

Dire statistics—like the fact that Studi is the first Native American actor to get an Oscar, that only five women have ever been nominated for best director and that gender inequality is still an issue in front of the camera, too—existed well before the stars gathered in the heart of Hollywood for the untelevised dinner event. But there is nothing quite like seeing Jane Campion stand beside Greta Gerwig—two of the five female directing nominees in Oscars history—and count, by 10s, the number of men who have been nominated for best director. She got up to 350.

The film academy’s president, David Rubin, said there is no agenda when the 54-member board of governors selects the honorary Oscar recipients, but this year seemed to correct a few wrongs and could even signal a more promising future.

Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award recipient Geena

Davis asked everyone in the room to not make another movie without doing a “gender and diversity pass” on the script first.

While toasting Studi, his “The New World” and “Hostiles” co-star, Christian Bale noted native and indigenous people have been underrepresented on both sides of the camera but “we’re in a room full of people who can change that.”

Indeed, the Governors Awards crowd is a powerful one, featuring A-list stars, directors, producers and executives populating nearly every table: Leonardo DiCaprio, Quentin Tarantino, Netflix chief content officer Ted Sarandos, Sony Pictures Chairman Tom Rothman, Jeffrey Katzenberg and Amy Pascal were just a few of the power players in the audience.

The event has become an informal and low-pressure stop for awards hopefuls, and this year was no different, with various cast members and filmmakers behind “Once Upon a Time in Hollywood,” “Little Women,” “Booksmart,” “Dolemite Is My Name,” “Joker,” “Marriage Story,” “Hustlers,” “Rocketman,” “Pain and Glory” and “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood” in attendance.

Springsteen surprises moviegoers at film preview screenings

FREEHOLD, N.J. (AP)—Bruce Springsteen surprised moviegoers by introducing his new concert film in his New Jersey hometown.

The Asbury Park Press reports Springsteen introduced two showings of “Western Stars” at the AMC Loews Freehold Metroplex Cinema in Freehold on Saturday.

Springsteen is a native of Freehold borough.

Springsteen told audiences that since his band knew it wasn’t going to tour, he had to try to figure out a way to bring the music to his audience.

“Western Stars” is a concert film shot in a barn in front of a small audience at Springsteen’s property in Colts Neck.

The music album “Western Stars” was released in June.

A second preview screening is scheduled for Wednesday. The film hits theaters on Friday.

'Maleficent' edges 'Joker' for weekend box-office crown

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The "Maleficent" sequel has overtaken "Joker" for the

weekend box-office crown in North America.

Final figures released Mon-

day showed "Maleficent: Mistress of Evil" earned \$19.4 million, pulling ahead of "Jok-

er" by a mere \$122,000.

"Joker" had been the top film on Sunday based on studio

estimates after being knocked out of the top spot by "Maleficent" last week.

Joaquin Phoenix traces the origins of the classic Batman villain in "Joker." It has earned \$278 million in the United States and Canada in its first four weeks, and it is the inter-

national record-holder for an R-rated film with \$852 million in earnings.

The "Maleficent" sequel, which stars Angelina Jolie as the classic Disney villain, has earned \$66.2 million in North America in its first two weeks.

Delaware man was hospitalized after trying out for game show

NEWARK, Del. (AP) — A Delaware man says he was so excited during an audition for a game show that he pulled a muscle in his leg and had to go to the emergency room.

The Delaware News Jour-

nal reports the episode of "Family Feud" that 56-year-old Rafael Pagán of Newark, his sister and three nieces tried out for in October 2017 will air Wednesday. He says the injury was caused by

jumping so much during the audition.

Families who try out are eligible to appear on the show within two years. Pagán says the family flew to Los Angeles in April to tape

the show.

Pagán says many of his friends don't know how the family fared on their episode. He says they're invited to a watch party to find out Wednesday night.

Tate Modern aims to take 'personal' look at Andy Warhol

LONDON (AP) — Andy Warhol's portraits of New York drag queens and trans women are going on display at London's Tate Modern in a show that aims to find new angles on the iconic American artist.

Tate Modern director Frances Morris said Monday the exhibition will take "a more human and personal look" at Warhol, who died in 1987. The gallery says the exhibition highlights his private beliefs and background as a

"shy, gay man from a religious, migrant, low-income household."

The exhibition includes many of Warhol's best-known images, including Coke bottles, soup cans and celebrities including Marilyn Monroe, Dolly

Parton and Debbie Harry.

It also features 25 paintings from the less well-known 1970s series "Ladies and Gentlemen," featuring drag and transgender performers.

The exhibition runs from March 12 to Sept. 6, 2020.

Bronx steps in 'Joker' movie become a tourist attraction

NEW YORK (AP)—Move over, Rocky, there's a new stairway to climb.

A set of outdoor steps in the Bronx has become a tour-

ist attraction in recent weeks since the release of the movie "Joker."

The stairs are between two buildings on Shakespeare Av-

enue, about a half-mile from Yankee Stadium.

In the movie, lead actor Joaquin Phoenix dances as he goes down the steps,

wearing a bright red suit and clown makeup.

These days, neighborhood residents using the steps are being joined by tourists trying to recreate the scene.

The visitors have been taking selfies, and some have even shown up in costume.

Coming to the stairs is "really immersive," said Oliver Bonallack, visiting from Brighton, England.

"You never really get to experience a film first-hand," he said. "I feel like it is so iconic."

Not everyone is thrilled with the upsurge in popularity.

"We live in the neighborhood, it's taking up all of our time, we're all being inconvenienced," said Bronx resident Cathyrine Spencer. "Every day when I come down the stairs, I have to go through a barrage of people."

The stairway joins the ranks of well-known movie settings, like that of the steps at the Philadelphia Museum of Art seen in "Rocky."



AP

People pose on the steps between two apartment buildings, Monday Oct. 28, 2019, in the Bronx borough of New York.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Texas man guilty of stalking, threatening Taylor Swift

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—A 27-year-old Austin, Texas, man has pleaded guilty to stalking and sending threatening letters and emails to pop star Taylor Swift's former record label. Federal prosecutors in Nashville, Tennessee, said in a news release the letters to Big Machine Label Group began in January 2018 with Eric Swarbrick asking the CEO to introduce him to Swift. Over time the letters became more violent and threatening. On three occasions Swarbrick drove to Nashville to personally deliver them. He also admitted to wandering the offices. Swarbrick sent at least 40 letters and emails before he was charged and arrested in September 2018. Swarbrick will remain in custody until he is sentenced in March. He faces up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine on each of the two counts.

Judge allows Chicago suit against Jussie Smollett to proceed

CHICAGO (AP) — A federal judge on Tuesday refused to dismiss Chicago's lawsuit against former "Empire" actor Jussie

Smollett. U.S. District Virginia Kendall's ruling means that Chicago's suit that seeks to recoup \$130,000 that city officials say the police department spent investigating Smollett's claim that he was a victim of a racist and homophobic attack in January can proceed. The motion by the former "Empire" actor's attorneys was a long-shot because their argument boiled down to the contention that Smollett shouldn't be required to reimburse the police department because he couldn't have known how much time and money would be spent investigating his allegations. The police conducted an exhaustive investigation that included nearly 1,900 hours of overtime as they looked into Smollett's claim that he was beaten by two masked men on a downtown Chicago street in January and that they used racist and homophobic slurs and looped a noose around his neck before fleeing. For days, detectives scoured the neighborhood for witnesses, analyzed dozens of videos from surveillance cameras on the street, on buildings and inside taxi cabs, and interviewed store owners in search of who might have sold the suspects the rope.

Old flame returns as spark fades in woman's marriage

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to a wonderful man for six years, and we've been together for 10. We bought a house a few years ago, and since then our sex life has significantly decreased. I know the stress of being homeowners hasn't helped our situation, and over the last year I have felt like I'm falling out of love.

A few weeks ago, I ran into a man I dated before my husband, and there was a spark between us that neither of us can deny. He broke my heart years ago, but I can't shake this feeling of wanting—needing—to be with him. I can't get him off my mind.

I hate the idea of breaking my husband's heart, but I also don't want to lose the chance to see what could be with my old flame. How can I come out of this on top? I'm terrified that I may have signed on to spend my life with someone who isn't my soul mate.

AT A CROSSROADS IN N.C.

DEAR CROSSROADS: May I introduce a dose of sobriety? The man who broke your heart years ago is capable of doing it again.

After 10 years have passed, the chances are he, too, is married. If you pursue this, there will be collateral damage. No one, including you, will come out "on top" because someone always pays the price. You and your husband need to figure out why things changed after you bought that house

and deal with it. If you do, it may improve your marriage.

DEAR ABBY: My grandfather has been put on a pedestal as the pillar of our family. Everyone except me adores him. I can barely stomach him. He's a racist and a sexist, and he abused my grandmother to her dying day. He now abuses his current wife. He has made her cry many times, but she still continues to cater to and worship him.

Whenever I bring up his issues, family members say it doesn't matter, and he deserves respect no matter how he acts. When I'm around him, I remain polite and respectful. However, I feel no love for him and have no desire to spend more time with him than I absolutely have to. Am I a terrible person?

UNCERTAIN IN THE SOUTH

DEAR UNCERTAIN: Not at all. You are simply someone who has a lower tolerance for racism, sexism and people who abuse others than the rest of your family.

DEAR ABBY: I understand that a person should stay home when he or she is sick in order to avoid spreading the illness to others. However, if you have plans with a friend, and your brother or sister has the flu but you have NOT gotten sick yet, is it your responsibility to warn your friend that you have been

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



exposed? Should you cancel plans? I mean, what's the considerate thing to do in this situation?

CAREFUL IN WASHINGTON

DEAR CAREFUL: In a case like this, full disclosure is imperative. If you know you have been exposed to a contagious illness and may be carrying the bug, the considerate thing to do would be to tell your friend so the person has the choice of whether to opt out.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

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By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 38 Label 40 Chatter 41 Glitzy rock genre 43 Felon's flight 45 Leather-neck 47 Cookie bits 51 — incline (tilted) 52 Dawn 54 As soon as 55 Altar vow 56 Wine region 57 Golf props 58 Swindle 59 Colleen role

DOWN 1 Tennis champ Arthur 2 Blueprint 3 Inlets 4 Pancake topper 5 Listed alpha-betically 6 Born 7 Reacts in horror 8 Flattered, so to speak 9 Opie Taylor's town 10 Fonda's beekeeper role 11 Hardy heroine 16 Persian Gulf land 20 Squealer 23 Flight stat 24 Halloween greeting 25 Bless the food 27 Speck 29 Irish actor Stephen 30 Shri! bark 32 Leopards and 34 Joyful 37 Author Brown 39 Attire 42 Army doc 44 Wall painting 45 Academic 46 Actress Hathaway 48 Small plateau 49 Cave creatures 50 Aspen gear 53 Fuss

Solution time: 23 mins.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER 10-30

J E T S A S P Q U I T
A L O T R U M U R S A
V A M P I R E S A G A R
A L B D A D A G E N T
S O Y R P M
B A N A L M O T I V E S
A T O P A I D R E B A
T E M P U R A G E T B Y
H M M S O S
S O F I A B I O P H I
T G O R B O N F I R E S
G E R E R I C C A R L
N E T S A L E E Y R E

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Matthew Morrison, 41; Gavin Rossdale, 54; Harry Hamlin, 68; Henry Winkler, 74.

Happy Birthday: Take a unique approach to life, and see what happens. Look for what moves you emotionally, mentally and physically, and explore the possibilities that exist. Embrace new beginnings, and strive for personal growth. Your numbers are 3, 17, 24, 29, 33, 42, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Personal and professional relationships will tense if you are having trouble deciding what to do next. Educate yourself so you have a fighting chance of making the decisions that will help you reach the happiness and success you desire. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Consider the possibilities and the necessary alterations needed to make your dreams come true. Discuss your plans and develop a good rapport with the person most likely to help you fulfill your long-term goal. Love and romance will stabilize your life. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep moving forward, regardless of what others do or say. Have a plan in mind, and don't deviate to accommodate someone who is being manipulative. Choose your words carefully, and don't make unrealistic promises. Your physical accomplishment will be what counts. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A unique partnership should be looked at carefully. Question why someone wants to sidele up to you. Be observant, ask questions and refrain from sharing personal information. It's best to maintain an air of mystery if you want to have leverage. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Keep moving forward until you achieve your goals. If you let someone upset you or lead you astray, you won't accomplish what you set out to do. Don't put the blame elsewhere; be responsible, and get things done correctly. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Get out and talk to people who understand your situation and think the same way you do. Overreacting will only make matters worse, but constructive adjustments will help rectify any problem that is standing in your way. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You need to incorporate some adventure into your life. Look at the changes going on around you, and you'll come up with a plan that will encourage you to use your skills in an exciting, diverse manner. Change begins within. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A business trip will turn into a learning experience. Keep an open mind, and you will discover something that will help you ward off excess waste, overspending or costly encounters. Romance will lead to personal stability. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Mixed emotions will surface. Don't believe everything you hear. Put more time and effort into personal improvements, physical fitness and taking care of your responsibilities. A tense situation regarding money should not be allowed to escalate into an argument. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Verify whatever information you are given, and make your move. Reconnect with someone you have felt comfortable working or doing things with in the past; it will spark a new project or pastime. Romance and personal gains are heading your way. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Share only what's necessary. You can control an emotional incident if you are secretive about your plans until you have every little detail taken in order. Keep your life simple, and take care of your affairs personally. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Stay on top of contracts, negotiations, money matters, and your health and well-being. Your accomplishments will be dependent on controlling outside interference. Personal involvement with someone needs nurturing. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are diligent, adaptable and diplomatic. You are original and observant.

Visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

SUDOKU Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/30

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WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

SERVICE AGREEMENTS Solution: 10 letters

P L A N O I T A S N E P M O C
P R O B L E M S C T T L A O O
P R O D U C T E I O A L N S N
S D N I B S E M V R D F O T S
E R D E N G I S E I I E T I U
V P E A V L E N T D E T I M L
E S A D E O E E E E C C E F
R H P R I G R N Y S K E E F A
A N D E T V T P T O S R D R T
B S E I R I O S E A L E A A I
I M A T A S E R A H S P S M O
L R L L T P O S P O L K M E N
I E I C L I E N T D S L L E S
T T C O N T R A C T E G D U B
Y T N A R R A W I T N E S S S

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Yesterday's Answer: Patterns

Treasures 13 through 18 and 20 through 34 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

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Verlander, Astros look to close out Nationals

WASHINGTON (AP)—Good as Justin Verlander is, he's the only pitcher in baseball history to go 0-5 in World Series games.

For all his excellence, Verlander has failed to close things out in the postseason, including losses in win-and-advance games in this year's AL Division Series and Championship Series.

The 36-year-old right-hander gets a chance to overcome both of those trends and help the Houston Astros clinch their second championship in three years when he starts Game 6 at home against Stephen Strasburg and the Washington Nationals on Tuesday night.

"That would obviously be a moment that ... I would cherish in my career, if that were able to happen," Verlander said Sunday before Houston beat Washington 7-1 to move out to a 3-2 lead in the best-of-seven series.

With President Donald Trump in attendance, Gerrit Cole gave up one run in seven innings and struck out nine for Houston, while rookie Yordan Álvarez and Carlos Correa each hit two-run homers off Joe Ross, a surprise starter in place of an injured Max Scherzer. The three-time Cy Young Award winner was scratched just hours before Game 5 began because of an irritated nerve near his neck.

After dropping the opening two games in Houston by a combined score of 17-7, the Astros have switched everything around completely, taking all three games in Washington by a total tally of 19-3.

"If we win in front of our fans, it's just going to be so special," Correa said. "I think I'll black out for the first time in my life."

Houston will look to Ver-



AP
Houston Astros starting pitcher Justin Verlander tries to make a play on a ball hit by Washington Nationals' Ryan Zimmerman during the fourth inning of Game 2 of the World Series Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2019, in Houston.

lander to end the World Series, even though he has not pitched up to the high standards he established while winning 225 games, collecting 2011 AL Cy Young and MVP honors and earning eight All-Star selections. After going 21-6 with a 2.58 ERA and 300 Ks during the regular season, this is what he's done in five postseason starts: 1-3, 4.15 ERA, 35 strikeouts, 11 walks.

That includes a 12-3 loss in Game 2, also while facing Strasburg.

Five days later, Verlander gets another shot at the Nationals.

"We've got J.V. on the mound. A J.V. day is fun. I've been watching that guy pitch for a lot of years," Astros reliever Joe Smith said. "He ain't slowing down."

Still, it's important to recall

that two years ago, in another Game 6, he could have sealed the Fall Classic against the Los Angeles Dodgers — and even had a sixth-inning lead, but Houston wound up losing 3-1. The Astros did come back the next night to take Game 7 for the title.

Then, this October, Verlander got the ball on short rest for Game 4 of the ALDS against the Tampa Bay Rays, but again couldn't get the job done in a close-out game, giving up three runs in the first inning and losing 4-1. Once again, though, Houston won the next game to claim the series.

And in the ALCS against the New York Yankees, the same scenario played out: Houston could have advanced to this World Series by win-

ning Game 5, but Verlander allowed four runs in the first inning of another 4-1 loss. Yet again, Houston won the next game to bail him out.

Strasburg, meanwhile, truly has been at his best this postseason, frequently relying more on a seemingly unhittable changeup or a right-where-he-wants-it curveball as out pitches, rather than the high-90s mph fastball he thrived with in earlier times.

The 31-year-old righty enters Tuesday with a 4-0 record, 1.82 ERA, 40 strikeouts and just two walks in five appearances, four as a starter.

"He has elite stuff," said Houston outfielder George Springer, who hit a two-run homer in the ninth Sunday.

"The way he can command all three, four of his pitches, it's not fun to face. It's not easy."

Memorably shut down for the 2012 playoffs to protect his surgically repaired right elbow, Strasburg has a lengthy history of health issues. That includes no fewer than a dozen trips to the injured list, with two per year in 2010, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018.

But not a single such stay in 2019, when he made 33 starts and led the NL with 209 innings while going 18-6 with a 3.32 ERA and 251 strikeouts. Add in his postseason innings, and his full-year total is 237, a career high.

His pitch total of 3,839, including October, also is the most for him in a year, as are his 17 outings of at least 100 pitches each, going 105, 117 and 114

over his last three games.

"I think mechanically I've been able to be a little bit more consistent when I go out there and pitch. Just made some minor tweaks in the offseason training program. I kind of put more emphasis on just strength, not so much endurance, and trying to get my weight up," said Strasburg, the No. 1 overall pick in the 2009 amateur draft. "And I was able to kind of ride that throughout the year."

He's never taken the mound with nearly as much on the line as there will be this time.

"Winners come to play when their backs are against the wall. True competitors," Nationals outfielder Adam Eaton said. "We're going to see what we're made of in two days."

BOSTON
(AP)—Theo Epstein won

two World Series with the Red Sox and burned out in Boston after nine years. Ben Cherington won one, too, and was gone less than two years later.

Dave Dombrowski lasted less than a year after riding through the streets of Boston in a celebratory duck boat parade. All he did was build the rosters that won three straight AL East titles, including a franchise-record 108 games last season and a fourth World Series championship in 15 years.

So when the Red Sox hired former Tampa Bay Rays exec Chaim Bloom to take over as their new chief baseball officer, they gave him a clear mission: not just another trophy for the Fenway Park mantel, but the chance to compete for one year after year.

Red Sox introduce Chaim Bloom as new boss

"I know how high the expectations are here," Bloom said at his introductory news conference on Monday, a year to the day after Dombrowski's team clinched the World Series against the Los Angeles Dodgers. "My expectations are high. I know the expectations of the baseball operations staff are high. That's a good thing."

A 36-year-old Yale graduate who worked his way up from intern to Rays assistant general manager, Bloom will take over a franchise that won it all in 2018 but missed the playoffs this season despite the biggest payroll in baseball.

It's a cycle that many cities would welcome but not Boston.

"We very much want to be a stable organization. But we all wake up every day saying,

"How can we improve?" Red Sox chairman Tom Werner said. "A year ago today, we were considered the best baseball club in the world. And obviously we didn't achieve our objective this year. But we have the pieces in place to be competitive every year."

Owner John Henry disputed that there has been a lot of turnover in the front office, saying, "I've been an owner for 21 years, and at that time I've had three and now four general managers." But during that time no other team has parted ways with a baseball boss within a year or two of a title, and Boston has now done it three times."

Girardi a big hit in Philly

In Philadelphia, Joe Girardi hit

a grand slam after putting on the red pinstripes for the first time.

Girardi was charming, engaging and entertaining in his introductory news conference as the 55th manager of the Philadelphia Phillies. Already popular among fans, Girardi said all the right things Monday.

"It means a lot to me that the fans are behind me," Girardi said. "I'm well aware of the passion for the great game of baseball here. I've lived it as a player and as a manager. I know the importance of winning here. I had a chance to compete against a great team with Charlie Manuel here in 2009, and it was a great place to come watch a game. The passionate fans of the Phillies were great—they were not easy to play against—and

I want it to be that way for many years to come."

Girardi brings an impressive resume to Philadelphia. He managed the New York Yankees for 10 years, succeeding Joe Torre after the 2007 season. He led New York to its 27th World Series title, beating the Phillies in six games in 2009.

He also managed the Marlins for one season and was NL Manager of the Year after going 78-84 in 2006, the only manager to win the award with a losing record.

Girardi's record with the Yankees was 910-710, the sixth-most wins in team history. Girardi won at least 84 games each season in New York and had four years with 95 or more, including 103 in

2009. He led the Yankees to three AL East titles and six postseason appearances.

"Having had 10 years in a big market in New York like Joe did with a World Series and six playoff appearances, his resume really speaks for itself," general manager Matt Klentak said. "But beyond that I can tell you that when we talk to people about Joe, people that he's known in his career, people that he's worked with, the players that have played for him, to a man or a person, every one of them would begin that conversation talking about what a good person Joe is and then at the end of that conversation they would conclude with: 'Don't forget that he's an incredible person.' I think when you're making a hire like this it's a pretty good move to bet on a quality individual and I really think we're getting one of the best."

Westbrook scores 21 as Rockets beat Thunder



HOUSTON (AP)—After Russell Westbrook helped the Houston Rockets beat the Oklahoma City Thunder on Monday night in his first meeting against his former team he insisted there weren't different emotions in facing the guys he played with for so long.

"When I hoop I have no friends," he said. "On the court they know not to talk to me."

But as soon as Westbrook finished saying that, he walked right down the hall and bounded into the visitor's locker room for a reunion with his former teammates.

James Harden scored 40 points and Westbrook scored 21 and fell an assist shy of a triple-double as the Rockets got the 116-112 win.

Some players seemed taken aback to see Westbrook in their locker room and a confused Dennis Schroder asked him what he was doing in there.

Westbrook smiled and said: "Same thing I've been doing, coming to check on

my homies."

Westbrook had 12 rebounds and nine assists after notching his 139th triple-double in his last game to pass Magic Johnson for second-most all-time.

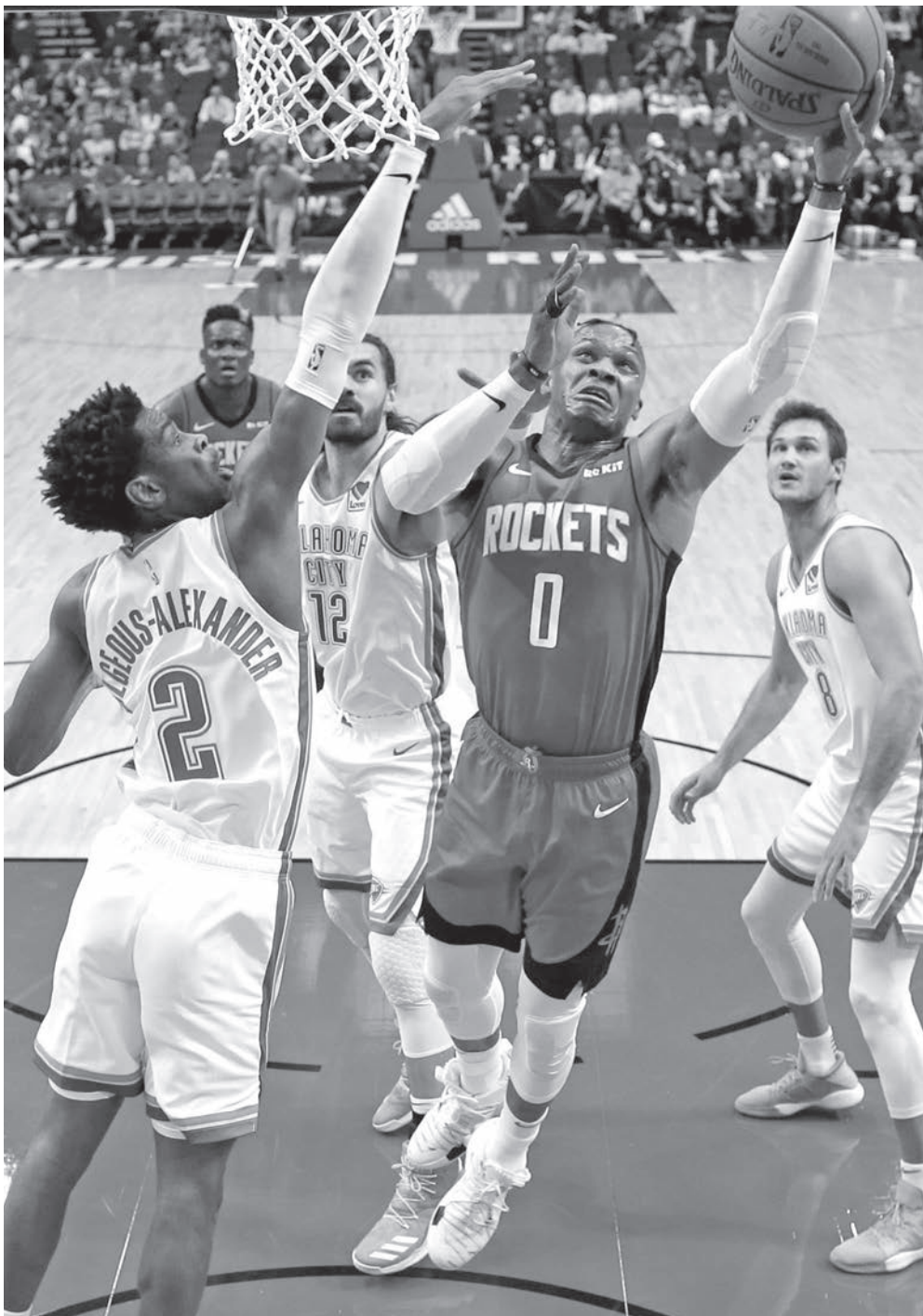
A 3-pointer by Shai Gilgeous-Alexander with 19 seconds left got Oklahoma City within 3. Westbrook made 1 of 2 free throws before fouling Nerlens Noel, who made both free throws.

But Harden, who was 21 of 22 from the line, made four free throws down the stretch to secure the victory.

Knicks 105, Bulls 98

In New York, Bobby Portis scored a season-high 28 points against his former team, including a go-ahead 3-pointer with 1:47 remaining, and the Knicks beat the Chicago Bulls their first victory of the season.

Portis hadn't scored in double digits yet in his first season with the Knicks, but was superb in bringing New York back from an 18-point deficit. The reserve was 10 for 14, making all four 3-pointers, and added 11 rebounds.



Houston Rockets guard Russell Westbrook (0) drives to the basket as Oklahoma City Thunder guard Shai Gilgeous-Alexander (2) defends during the first half of an NBA game, Monday, Oct. 28, 2019, in Houston.

Warriors, who dropped their first two games by 19 or more points before dominating a Pelicans squad that was missing three injured starters, including top overall draft choice Zion Williamson.

D'Angelo Russell added 24 points and Damion Lee finished with 23 for Golden State, which led wire-to-wire.

Brandon Ingram had 27 points and 10 rebounds for the Pelicans.

The Pelicans were playing a second straight game without veteran guard Jrue Holiday, who has a sprained left knee, and also were without starting center Derrick Favors because of right knee soreness.

First-round draft pick Jaxson Hayes had 19 points for the Pelicans.

76ers 105, Hawks 103

In Atlanta, Joel Embiid scored 36 points, including the winning free throws with 5.3 seconds left, and Philadelphia 76ers won its third straight game to begin the season.

Philadelphia made things tough for Trae Young and dominated down the stretch to deny the young Hawks their first 3-0 start in three seasons.

Tobias Harris had eight of his 13 points in the final quarter as the 76ers outscored the Hawks 15-5 over the final five minutes. Josh Richardson chipped in with 14 points, and Ben Simmons also had 14.

But this was all about Embiid, who made 12 of 19 shots from the field and knocked down all 10 of his free throws. He also had 13 rebounds, five assists and three steals.

Young had 25 points on 7-of-20 shooting. John Collins added 16 points and De'Andre Hunter 14.

Spurs 113, Trail Blazers 110

In San Antonio, DeMar DeRozan scored 27 points and the Spurs overcame a sluggish start and beat Portland to remain undefeated.

Portland point guard Damian Lillard had 28 points, including 18 in the fourth quarter. Lillard's 3-pointer from the right corner bounced in and out as time expired.

Derrick White scored 21 points, LaMarcus Aldridge had 15 and Bryn Forbes 14 as the Spurs capped a three-game homestand to open the season.

CJ McCollum added 27 points for the Blazers (2-2).

Djokovic practices with Nadal, warms up for Paris Masters

PARIS—Novak Djokovic enjoyed a "fun", but rare, practice session with Rafael Nadal ahead of this week's Paris Masters as the old rivals prepare to battle for the year-end world number one spot.

The Serbian star will be usurped at the top of the rankings by Nadal next Monday no matter what happens in the French capital, while the Spaniard can also seal year-end supremacy by winning his first title at Bercy.

Djokovic is bidding to equal Pete Sampras' record by finishing the year as the world's top-ranked player for a sixth time.

The pair put their immediate aims to one side and played a practice session in Paris, shortly after facing off in an exhibition charity match in Kazakhstan.

"It was a lot of fun. It was very intense and competitive, as you can imagine, obviously, but in a very respectful way," said the 32-year-old Djokovic on Monday.

"It was actually very unusual because we haven't practised for years. It was strange because, when I see him across the net, that means I'm playing him, probably semi-finals or finals of a big event, but this time it was a practice session. But nevertheless, the intensity was like a match."

If Nadal fails to secure the year-end number one ranking this week, it will go down to the ATP Tour Finals in London, where Djokovic will be looking to draw level with Roger Federer on a record six titles.

The 16-time Grand Slam champion has also won the Paris Masters four times, while Nadal is yet to take either of the late-season events and has only claimed two of his 84 ATP titles indoors.

"He's in a much better position, but I hope I can do well in this tournament," said Djokovic, who suffered a surprise final loss to Russian Karen Khachanov 12 months ago.

"I've historically played really well indoors in Paris and also London, but it doesn't depend on me. I cannot really focus really too much on what he is doing or other players. I'll try to kind of get the most out of my performances and see where it takes me. In order to have a chance for year-end No. 1, I have to win all of my matches till the end of the season," he added.

Nadal, who claimed his 19th Grand Slam title last month with an epic US Open final win over Daniil Medvedev, has been the year-end world number one on four occasions.

The Knicks needed all of it on a night when they fell behind with a dreadful start and stayed that way until the fourth quarter. They never even led until Portis' go-ahead 3, which he followed with another 3 that pushed it to 103-98 during a 15-0 run to finish the game.

Rookie RJ Barrett added 19 points and 15 rebounds for the Knicks, who had dropped their first three games. Kevin Knox II scored 14 points, and Julius Randle finished with 13 points, 14 rebounds and five assists.

Zach LaVine scored 21 points for the Bulls, who fell to 1-3. Wendell Carter Jr. had 20 points and 10 rebounds.

The Knicks missed 13 of their first 15 shots and quickly fell behind by double digits.

Pistons 96, Pacers 94

In Detroit, Derrick Rose made a driving layup with 28.3 seconds left to give the Pistons the lead and the win.

Rose shot just 4 of 16 from the field and was having a tough time in the fourth quarter, but his left-handed layup went in to put Detroit up 95-94. Malcolm Brogdon missed at the other end, but Indiana

got an offensive rebound. T.J. Warren then missed badly on a tough shot from the corner, and the Pistons came up with the ball.

Luke Kennard made one of two free throws for Detroit, and Indiana had one more chance with 2 seconds left. Warren missed a 3-pointer from the left wing.

Andre Drummond had 18 points and 18 rebounds for the Pistons, and Christian Wood had 19 points and 12 rebounds.

Domantas Sabonis had 21 points and 14 rebounds for Indiana, and Brogdon contributed 15 points and 11 assists.

Raptors 104, Magic 95

In Toronto, Kyle Lowry scored 10 of his 26 points in the fourth quarter, Pascal Siakam added 24 and the Raptors withstood a late rally to beat Orlando for its third win in four games.

Marc Gasol had 10 points and 10 rebounds, Fred VanVleet scored 14 and OG Anunoby added 12 as the Raptors won for the 10th time in 15 regular-season meetings with Orlando.

Jonathan Isaac scored a career-high 24 points, Evan

Fournier had 18 and Markelle Fultz 13 for the Magic, who have lost two straight.

Ex-Raptor Terrence Ross scored 11 for Orlando, and D.J. Augustin had 10.

Bucks 129, Cavaliers 112

In Milwaukee, Khris Middleton scored 21 points, George Hill added 19 and seven Bucks players finished in double figures in a win over Cleveland.

Giannis Antetokounmpo had 14 points, 10 rebounds and seven assists in 29 minutes, Pat Connaughton added 17 points, Brook Lopez 16, and Wesley Matthews and Eric Bledsoe each finished with 14 points for Milwaukee.

Collin Sexton paced the Cavaliers with 18 points, while Jordan Clarkson and Tristan Thompson each added 17.

Warriors 134, Pelicans 123

In New Orleans, Stephen Curry had 26 points and 11 assists, and Golden State won for the first time this season, beating the winless Hornets.

Draymond Green had 16 points, 17 rebounds and 10 assists for the injury-riddled

Steelers survive slow start, top winless Dolphins



PITTSBURGH (A P) — The Pittsburgh Steelers stopped beating themselves long enough to keep the Miami Dolphins winless.

James Conner ran for 145 yards and a touchdown, and Mason Rudolph overcame a shaky start to throw for 251 yards and two scores as the Steelers pulled away for a 27-14 victory on Monday night.

Pittsburgh (3-4) spotted the Dolphins (0-7) a 14-point first quarter lead before steady-ing itself to win consecutive games for the first time since ripping off six straight in the middle of last season. Steelers safety Minkah Fitzpatrick, acquired in a trade with Miami last month, picked off Dolphins quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick twice, and Pittsburgh forced four turnovers in all to avoid an embarrassing loss that would have effectively ended the competitive portion of its season.

Rudolph completed 20 of 36 passes, including a 45-yard touchdown to rookie Diontae Johnson late in the second quarter and a 26-yard strike to JuJu Smith-Schuster in the third quarter that put the Steelers in control. Smith-Schuster caught five passes for 103 yards, his first 100-yard game of the year.

Ryan Fitzpatrick passed for 190 yards with two touchdowns and two picks, but a rare hot start couldn't prevent Miami from staying winless through seven games for the first time since 2011. The Dolphins have dropped 10 straight dating back to last season.

Rudolph stressed he wasn't worried about the long-term effects of a frightening concussion he suffered against Baltimore on Oct. 6, when he was knocked unconscious from a helmet-to-helmet hit by Ravens safety Earl Thomas. Still, playing for the first time in three weeks, he looked shaky at best and completely out of sorts at worst during an ugly opening quarter that saw the Dolphins grab their first two-touchdown lead over any opponent in more than a year.

Pittsburgh's first possession ended with Rudolph throwing a pick to Xavien Howard — back in the lineup after missing two games with a knee injury—and its second ended with an ugly fourth-down misfire by Rudolph.

The Dolphins, in the midst of a massive and ceaseless roster overhaul under first-year coach Brian Flores that included trading running back Kenyan Drake to Arizona on Monday for a conditional sixth-round pick in next year's draft, showed their first ex-



Pittsburgh Steelers running back James Conner (30) is tackled by Miami Dolphins defensive tackles Christian Wilkins (94) and John Jenkins (95) during the first half of an NFL game in Pittsburgh, Monday, Oct. 28, 2019.

Pittsburgh's lead to 10.

Jets trade former first-rounder to Giants

Leonard Williams has a new team, even though he'll be playing in the same state and the building he has called home for more than four years.

Ahead of the NFL's trade deadline on Tuesday, the Giants on Monday acquired Williams from the Jets for a pair of draft picks: a 2020 third-round pick and a 2021 fifth-round pick.

Williams, a 2015 first-round selection for the Jets, had underwhelmed in his four-and-a-half seasons with the team, totaling 17 sacks over that span. While he had been a consistent presence on the field, starting all but one game in his time with the Jets, Williams suffered through spells of inconsistency and lacked production.

As the Jets transitioned to Gregg Williams as the team's defensive coordinator, Leonard Williams struggled to find his fit in the 4-3 scheme. This season, Williams has 20 total tackles but no sacks.

It's also a curious move for the Giants. Though the two teams play in the same market, they rarely work together. This is the first trade between the franchises in their respective histories.

Meanwhile, in Los Angeles, the Chargers are making a change to their coaching staff.

The Chargers fired offensive coordinator Ken Whisenhunt on Monday night.

The move to get rid of Whisenhunt came from left field, but it was the right decision from the team moving forward.

Los Angeles is currently averaging 19.6 points per game, 350.6 total offensive yards, 281.1 passing yards per game and 69.5 rushing yards per game.

The Chargers have not scored more than 20 points in a game in the last month. Along with that, they became the first team in Super Bowl era to rush for under 40 yards in four consecutive games.

The Chargers had 36 yards on the ground in their 17-16 victory over the Chicago Bears, marking their fourth straight game with less than 40 yards rushing.

According to Pro Football Reference, it's the third time since 1940 that a team's ground game has been that ineffective for that long.

tended signs of life in an already lost season.

Fitzpatrick found Albert Wilson for a 5-yard touchdown after Howard's interception, and Allen Hurns plowed through several tackles on his way to a 12-yard score that gave Miami—a 14-point underdog—a 14-point advantage for the first time since Oct. 7, 2018. The Dolphins couldn't hold on then, allow-

ing the Bengals to rally for a victory. A year later, not much has changed.

Get the 4th and Monday newsletter in your inbox.

The Steelers pulled within 14-10 at the break thanks to the first of Minkah Fitzpatrick's two interceptions and some curious defensive play-calling by the Dolphins.

Leading by 11 points and with Pittsburgh facing third-

and-20 outside of field goal range, Miami opted to blitz and didn't bother to guard Johnson, who took a short pass from Rudolph and used a couple of downfield blocks by James Washington to weave his way 45 yards to the end zone.

Fitzpatrick's second pick—basically an arm punt by Ryan Fitzpatrick—gave the Steelers the ball at Pittsburgh 3. Rudolph then led Pittsburgh 97

yards in 12 plays, the last 26 coming on a pretty lob to the end zone that Smith-Schuster hauled in to put the Steelers up 17-14. Pittsburgh stopped Fitzpatrick on a fourth-down scramble on Miami's ensuing possession—a stop made possible by coach Mike Tomlin's first successful officiating challenge since 2017—and five plays later, Conner bulled over from 9 yards out to boost

Tiger jumps to No. 6 in world rankings



JAPAN—After tying the PGA Tour's all-time wins record halfway around the world, Tiger Woods made a move in the latest installment of the Official World Golf Ranking.

Woods' three-shot win at the inaugural Zozo Championship tied him with Sam Snead for the most trophies in Tour history, and it also helped him jump from 10th to sixth in the world. Woods started the year ranked 13th and reached as high as fifth following his Masters win in April.

The Top 5 ahead of Woods remained the same, with Brooks Koepka No. 1 followed by Rory McIlroy, Dustin Johnson, Justin Thomas and Jon Rahm. Woods' victory bumped four players down one spot apiece: Patrick Cantlay dropped from sixth to seventh, with Justin

Rose, Xander Schauffele and Bryson DeChambeau rounding out the latest top 10.

Hideki Matsuyama went from 27th to 22nd after finishing second behind Woods in his native Japan, while Gary Woodland went from 18th to 15th after finishing fifth. Reigning PGA Tour Rookie of the Year Sungjae Im rose from 43rd to 34th after a T-3 finish.

Despite skipping the Zozo Championship, Phil Mickelson remained No. 50 in the latest rankings to extend his streak of remaining inside the top 50 which dates back to 1993. Mickelson is in the field for this week's WGC-HSBC Champions in China.

Olympic play for Woods?

Leading up to the Zozo Championship, Woods was asked about whether he wants to play in next summer's Olympics,

where golf will be part of the program following its debut in Rio after a 112-year hiatus.

He made it clear that making the U.S. team for the 2020 Tokyo Games "is a big goal."

"I don't see myself having too many opportunities other than next year," he said. "Four years from now, at the next Olympic Games, I'll be 48 years old. To be one of the top Americans at that age is going to be tough."

With his surprising victory Sunday in the Zozo, Woods proved he's right in the mix for a spot in Tokyo although there's a long way to go in the qualification period. Woods is the fourth American at the top of the list after No. 1 Brooks Koepka, No. 3 Dustin Johnson and No. 4 Justin Thomas.

Before the Zozo, Patrick Cantlay (sixth) was the fourth American in the Olympic rankings behind Koepka (1), Johnson (3) and Thomas (4).

For the Olympics, the United States can take the maximum four players if they are ranked in the top 15. Otherwise, the maximum is two per country.

The two-year qualification period ends June 22, 2020 (after the U.S. Open on the PGA Tour schedule), and the Olympic tournament begins July 30 with the men.

According to the International Golf Federation, the rankings are based on each tournament earning a strength-of-field rating, which determines how many ranking points will be awarded to top finishers.

Points are awarded to players based on their finish positions in each event, with performances in stronger-field events earning more points in accordance with a points distribution table approved by the IGF.

Olympic golf ranking points for 2020 started on July 1, 2018.

Tsingtao's Jandoc, Ariar take MVP honors

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

TSINGTAO Tsingtao Boyz's Peter Ariar and Jetzen Jandoc were named most valuable players in the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League last Sunday at the Civic Center Court.

Jandoc was awarded the regular season MVP trophy for his outstanding play in

the elimination round, while Ariar took the Finals MVP after stepping up in the second half of their 74-71 title win over Connie's BBQ. Ariar registered all his 14 points in the final 20 minutes of play in the championship game, while Jandoc top-scored for Tsingtao with his 16 markers and was also the main gunner of the team in the regular season.

Jandoc made it to the Mythical Team, too, joining Pardz Ballers' Jose Torres, Mawati's Franklin Ferrer and Raymond

Velasco, and Connie's BBQ's Joel Danao on the selection.

In other awards, Connie's BBQ's Patrick Morales was handed the Best in 3-point Shootout trophy, while Tsingtao's Joboy Agbanlog took the Best Coach plum. Docomo Pacific's Jacquelyn Ocaya got the Best Muse trophy, while the Best Sportsmanship award was given to Gilas Batang.

Meanwhile, league organizers handed a plaque of appreciation to the representatives of the participants in the inaugural tournament: Connie's BBQ, Docomo Pacific, Gilas Batang, IT&E Dark, IT&E Light, Light and Salt, Mawati, Max's Restaurant, Pardz Ballers, RNV Construction, Saipan Adventure, and Tsingtao Boyz.

MP

From Page 28

Magat recorded the lone goal for Paire.

Kanoa 7, Matansa 4

Kanoa also won its season debut after outclassing Matansa.

Khristelle Itaas and Paulyn Joyce teamed up in handing Kanoa the victory, as each registered three goals. Lalaine Pagarao posted the other goal for the winning squad.

Matansa, on the other hand, drew a brace from Britanny Wally and one apiece from Jannah Casarino and Jerlyn Castillo.

DIVISION B Southern United 8, Kanoa 0

GO

From Page 28

Jerome Delos Santos, Manny Sablan, Luis Diaz, and Jimmy Demapan scored at the bottom of the second inning to put GSM on top, 4-0, after three complete innings.

The Mariners, who took Game 1, 6-4, missed sweeping the short series and advancing to the finale, as they had no runners reaching past first base in the first three innings. The Mariners had a 1-2-3 at the top of the first with Ton Tenorio and Nate Camacho having beaten to first and GSM starting pitcher Chu Sebaklim striking out Pat Tenorio.

In the second inning, Eli Aughenbaugh and Gary Cruz were also out at first, while Nate Smith was left stranded at first when Chu fanned K.J. Deleon Guerrero. The Mariners' offensive struggle continued in the third, as Chu struck out Alex Benavente and Jonah Flores and then picked up a grounder and threw it at first base to Sablan to tag out Tenorio.

After being frustrated by GSM's defense in the first three innings, the Mariners finally got into the board at the top of the fourth, courtesy of Nate and Cruz's runs, to move within two, 2-4.

Southern United made it to the win column in its first try after routing Kanoa.

Marinel Falalimpa, Erin Frink, and Tricia Roque fired two goals apiece, while Haidée Manibusan and Nathanette Blas added one each in Southern United's strong start in the division.

TanHoldings 7, Shirley's 1

TanHoldings also eased its way to victory in the other Division B match last weekend.

Julie Ann Capayas recorded a hat trick to power TanHoldings to its season-debut win. Rizza Relucio made two, while siblings Tamia and Tyana Hix had one apiece. Stephanie Lumbad logged the only goal for Shirley's FC.

However, GSM made it a 3-run lead in the ensuing inning with Demapan getting his second run in the game. GSM went on to keep its distance, as Chu and his teammates silenced the Mariners anew in the last three innings.

The Mariners missed a chance to score in the fifth inning, as Ton Tenorio was stuck to third when his brother Pat flied out at rightfield for the third out. The Mariners were earlier called for two quick outs when Benavente and Flores were beaten to first.

In the sixth inning, the Mariners also went down early when Chu fanned second batter Aughenbaugh and the former's brother, second baseman L.J. Sebaklim, shortstop Dennis Cabrera, and Sablan teamed up for a double play.

GSM kept hammering the Mariners on defense in the seventh and last inning, as it forced Smith to a 5-3 putout play and got the second out immediately with rightfielder Keoni Kaipat catching a fly from Deleon Guerrero. Chu then walked Jon Vilagomez, keeping the Mariners in the game, but not for long, as the GSM ace pitcher finished off their foes by striking out Flores.

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
Tsingtao Boyz's Jetzen Jandoc, right, shows his regular season MVP trophy awarded by One Pacific manager Randy Ramos at the conclusion of the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League last Sunday at the Civic Center Court.



November kickoff for middle school v-ball tourney

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Public School System is aiming to kick off the PSS Girls Middle School Volleyball League on Nov. 13 at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

According to PSS Athletics Program director Nick Gross,

planning for the new season of the middle school competition has started after they completed the high school tournament two weeks ago.

"Although the girls high school volleyball has come to a close this month, volleyball is alive and well in the CNMI. This being said, I am in the planning phase of the girls middle school league set to kick off on Nov. 13," he said.

Gross said that in an at-

tempt to continue to build capacity, they are also looking for motivated, reliable individuals that are interested in officiating games in the league. Referees will be paid \$10 every game, while those running the officials table will get \$6 per match. Interested individuals must provide their own transportation to and from the games.

"Should you have players, coaches, PTA, or supporters

that are interested in making some extra cash, please have them contact me. Experience is great, but not required as we can train motivated individuals. The most difficult part is ensuring that these individuals have reliable transportation and can be on-site by 4pm," Gross said.

For more information about the league and game officiating, contact Gross at nick.gross@cnmipss.org.

SPC

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managed to triumph in the Micro Cup despite going through challenging training conditions, as several typhoons hit the CNMI since last year.

"It's been a tough year with natural disasters hitting us and everyone on the team trying to

focus on training. But we did our best and remain focused on the races in Palau. The victories here really made all those sacrifices and hard work pay off and that really is a very good feeling," Andrew said.

In other results, Guam's Taotao Galaide took the gold in the men's 1,000m sprints, while the bronze medal was

awarded to Belau Kanu Club.

For the women's 1,000m sprint, Belau Kanu Club secured the gold, while Guam's Team Poksai earned the bronze.

In the men's 500m sprint, Guam's Taotao Galaide got the gold, while Belau Kanu Club settled for the silver.

Taotao Galaide also dominated the men's long distance

race, while Belau Kanu Club finished third. Belau Kanu Club ruled the women's long distance event and was joined in the podium by the SPC-Team CNMI and Taotao Galaide

In the men's V1 division, Belau Kanu Club took the gold and silver, while Taotao Galaide bagged the bronze.



Saipan Paddling Club members make their way to the finish line during the women's long distance event in the 2019 Micronesia Cup held in Koror, Palau over the weekend.

PALAU NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE PHOTO



Verlander, Astros
look to close out
Nationals

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Westbrook scores
21 as Rockets beat
Thunder

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Go See Mark stays alive

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Go See Mark remained in contention for the second and last finals ticket in the 2019 Saipan Baseball League following a 5-2 victory in Game 2 of their semis showdown against the Mariners last Saturday at the Francisco “Tan Ko” Palacios Ballfield.

GSM had a four-run bottom of the second and shut down the Mariners in the first three innings to force a rubber in



the best-of-three semis series. Game 3 will be played this Saturday with the winner in the decider challenging the pennant

and defending champions Chalan Kanoa Bears in a best-of-five title duel.

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SPC surpasses Micro Cup expectations



PALAU NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE PHOTO

Saipan Paddling Club members are in a close race with Palau and Guam teams in the men's 1,000m event in the 2019 Micronesia Cup held in Koror over the weekend.

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Team CNMI, represented by members of the Saipan Paddling Club, won five medals in the 2019 Micronesia Cup held in Koror, Palau over the weekend.

Up against the region's top outrigger canoe teams, SPC did not disappoint, as it bagged silver medals in the 1,000m sprints for both men and women's races and the men and women's distance events, and bronze in the men's 500m sprint.

According to SPC president Justin Andrew, Team CNMI also made it to the finals of the V1 event and though they missed the podium finish in the competition, the Commonwealth paddlers are pleased with their overall performance

in the Micro Cup.

“It feels great to be able to represent the CNMI and do our best. We are happy with the results of the races and our performance was beyond what we expected. We knew home team Palau is always strong and we also knew that Guam would come to Palau with strong teams,” he said.

Andrew was part of SPC's men's crew, teaming up with his son Joshua, Carter Calma, Benusto Olopai, Glenn Muna, and Vincent Manahane. The women's squad, on the other hand, had Sylvia Taggart, Gerlyn Libunao, Elizabeth Tenorio, Lorenza Aldan, Ma Victoria Saures, and Kalea Andrew as members.

The SPC head said they

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Go See Mark's Chu Sebaklim pitches to the Mariners' Nate Smith during the top of the second inning of Game 2 of their semis series in the 2019 Saipan Baseball League last Saturday at the Francisco “Tan Ko” Palacios Ballfield.

MP United bounces back

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



MP United Football Club battled back from its season-opening loss in the masters division of the 2019 Dove Women's Fall League after downing Kanoa Football Club, 4-1, last Sunday at the TSL Sports Complex.

Laarni Zapanta helped MP United, which bowed to TanHoldings in Week 1 of the division, recover quickly after scoring two goals against Kanoa. Karen Aglipay and Julie Hall made the two other goals for MP United, while Loyda Ito nailed the lone shot for Kanoa.

In the other masters match last Sunday, Matansa defeated Paire, 5-2.

Ivan Gozum paced Matansa with her hat trick, while Ratree Ditwiset and Wansa Gregory contributed one goal apiece. Natalie Hill-Beyer and Patricia Coleman scored the two goals for Paire.

DIVISION A TanHoldings 13, Paire 1

Division A action in the league kicked off last Friday with TanHoldings having a rousing start after dominating Paire.

Katrina Costales, Kaithlyn Chaves, and Jenny Capayas delivered three goals each for TanHoldings, while Cristina Atalig chipped in two, and Mary Joy Aniana and Allyssya Angeles had one apiece. Katherine

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MP United Football Club's Amy Shimizu, left, and Kanoa Football Club's Loyda Ito collide as they battle for the ball during the first half of their masters division game in the 2019 Dove Women's Fall League last Sunday at the TSL Sports Complex.